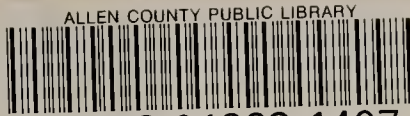


Gc
929.2
H11601h
1638610

M. L!

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

Gc



ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 1833 01283 1407

The

HACKETT

Presented
to the Newberry
Library

Family Album

by

George Washington HACKETT

[Decorative flourish]

1638610

These books may
be purchased
for \$3.50 each,
including mailing,
from

Alice Hackett
at 1599 W. Dodge St.
Lake Geneva,
Wisconsin

P R E F A C E

This historical record is the result of a charge and honor conferred on me more than fifty years ago when the Hackett Family Reunion Association at North Freedom, Wisconsin, appointed me their "Family Historian." I was then acting Secretary of the Association. The following material is the result of much painstaking research. It is gathered from conversations with older members of the family; from records made available by the co-operation of many; from published records; and from personal knowledge of the writer who is now one of the oldest surviving members of the family. Portions that are meager and limited in detail are the result of lack of co-operation of some of the families.

The family reunion was instituted at the request of Dency Hackett, at the original family gathering held on Thanksgiving Day in 1879. Although intended for the offspring of Samuel and Dency Hackett, it was later to include the families of Samuel's three brothers who had previously settled at Whitewater, Wisconsin. These were often in attendance at early reunions and later several of the meetings were held at Whitewater. These families are included in this history. Many of the facts contained in these pages were gleaned from the annual programs of early reunions.

Since this history might never have been written had it not been sponsored and encouraged by the Hackett Family Association, it is proper and desirable that a brief account of the reunions precede the story.

Some lack of co-operation has made it impossible to give every branch of the Hackett family equal representation. This is regrettable, for in general, response was satisfactory.

I desire to express my grateful appreciation to our beloved cousin Belle School for the great amount of help she rendered especially on Whitewater material. And my deepest thanks to my sister, Mary Prentice, for her keen interest and untiring efforts; and to Exilda and Lewis White and Lysle and Eloise Hackett for valued service and suggestions.



George W. Hackett
Historian

HACKETT FAMILY REUNIONS

Family reunions have been an important part of Hackett family life for a good many years. In fact, reunions were largely responsible for the creation of this book. On this page we present several reunion pictures. We regret that we cannot identify the persons shown except in the case of one picture, but perhaps you can find yourself if you look carefully.



4th Generation - Cousins



Major Will - Geo. - Sam - Jake (Hackett Cousins)



DEDICATION



To my beloved grandmother, Dency Terry Hackett, this story of the Hackett Family Reunion and the Family History is dedicated. It was through her keen conception of the true value of close family relationship as the basis of society and government that she was prompted to call her family together on Thanksgiving Day, 1879. It was for the purpose of giving thanks to God for their many blessings, and to admonish them of their obligations to one another, to society, and to their country.

It was also in response to her expressed desire that the Hackett Family Reunion Association was organized for arranging Annual Reunions. This Sixty Eighth Annual Reunion, 1949, at which this book is presented, attests to how well her wishes have been carried out. It can further be credited to her desire that this family history was inspired.

It is therefore right and proper that this dedication be made, in honor of her high ideals and noble purpose.

G. W. H.

THE ORIGINAL THIRD GENERATION OF THE HACKETT FAMILY AND THEIR WIVES



John & Mary Hackett

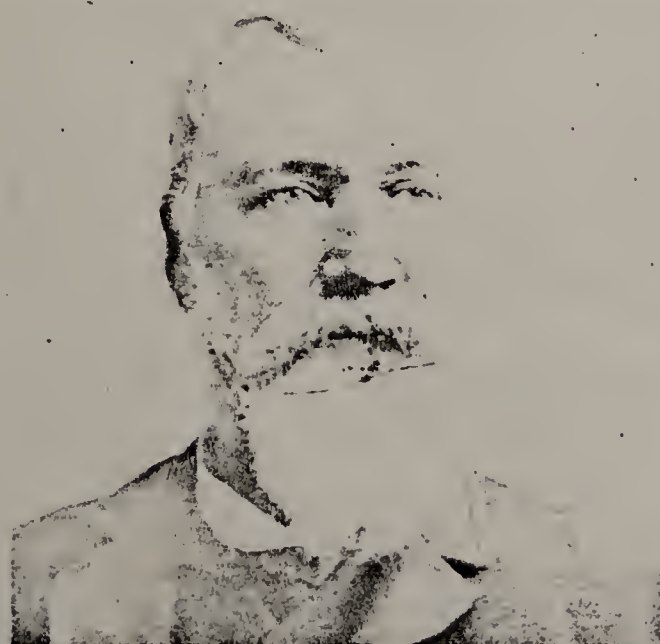


Frank & Ann Hackett



Hattie Lamport Hackett

Parshall Jerry Hackett



Timothy Hackett



Fanny Hackett

HISTORY OF THE HACKETT FAMILY REUNION

Our family came pioneering their way into the unbroken forests of the Baraboo Valley at what is now North Freedom in 1849, one hundred years ago. Eleven years earlier, 1838, our family had investigated the region that is now Whitewater, and decided to homestead it.

The first reunion of our family was held on Thanksgiving Day, 1879, at the behest of my grandmother, Dency Hackett, widow of Samuel, who had passed to his reward.

At the time of the first reunion at North Freedom the following members of the Samuel Hackett Family lived in the vicinity: Timothy, John, Joel, Frank; and two sisters, Julia and Dency Gray. More than fifty attended the first family gathering at which it was decided to hold all future reunions on Thanksgiving Day.

The first reunion was held in "Hackett's Hall" over "Uncle Tim's" store. It was the largest meeting place in the village, and was used for many years until circumstances made it necessary to go elsewhere. Although the reunion was originated by and for the Samuel Hackett branch, the Whitewater families were always invited to attend. The first written record of their attendance shows 1894. Later, the Whitewater Hacketts became full fledged members of the Reunion Association, and several annual meetings were held in that city under the guidance of local officers and committees.

Although the Reunion was organized back in the "horse and buggy days," we were long past the days of hominy and sow belly. No feast can compare with these reunion dinners prepared by cooks who really knew how. Food was brought in in vast quantities more than sufficient to satisfy the reputed appetite of a growing boy; and there was always much left over.

Children of the family especially anticipated early reunions for the stories of earlier days and delightful jokes. I do not know whether or not "Uncle George" from Minnesota attended the first reunion, but we all eagerly looked forward to seeing him each year. His talk was fervent; and he never failed to remark, "Wonderful family! Wonderful family!" That remark has had growing significance for me.

The time for holding reunions was changed from Thanksgiving to summer in 1925. That year it was held at Mirror Lake, Loch Mirror Park, near Delton. Cottages in this location which belonged to George, Jake and Major served the purpose perfectly. The largest attendance of Whitewater Hacketts ever recorded was in 1925; and relatives came from Tennessee and Minnesota. An outstanding feature of this reunion was the huge bonfire on the shore of the lake Saturday night. It inspired reminiscences in the older members. After the bonfire party, all attended the family dance in a large pavillion. A big pancake breakfast followed by a service of thanksgiving on the porch will long be remembered by those who attended.

Besides grandmother, those of the second generation who attended these reunions were "Uncle Johnnie" and "Uncle Jacob." Uncle Jacob was the younger of the four brothers who lived at North Freedom the latter years of his life. His enthusiasm for reunions is memorable. I well remember the last one he attended. At the close of the meeting, he stood up and said he had in mind the words of a hymn entitled "Wandering Home;" and asked to have it sung. I shall never forget the first stanza and chorus:

"We are wandering home as time passeth by
And weaveth a garland of years,
To the valley of death and the city beyond
That beautiful city called home."

Chorus:

"Wandering Home, wandering Home,
Soon we shall wander no more.
But O, may we meet each other at last,
At Home, on that beautiful shore."

That selection seemed a prelude to Uncle Jacob's passing, for he was gone before the next reunion. He was the last survivor of the second generation, I believe; son of Jacob and Elizabeth Hackett.

Uncle James Terry of Utah was present at one reunion; and his brother Joshua and wife and son.

Programs have always been a major highlight of each reunion. They have consisted of short plays, charades; display of varied talents and most especially music. The famous "Hackett's Orchestra" was often present with soul stirring selections appropriate to the occasion. Joe Reeves, who played the harp, is unforgettable. More preparation and effort was put into earlier programs than in later years.

The neighborly gesture of inviting friends helped to give our reunions wide and favorable publicity until it became fixed as a dependable event in the community. Although Dency Hackett did not survive long enough to see the full fruition of her dream, she could not have hoped for better results than the history relates.

REUNIONS HELD AT WHITEWATER

From information supplied by cousin Belle Scholl, I find that the 46th, the 54th and the 55th annual reunions were held at Whitewater, with reported attendance of 140. The three meetings were held the last Saturday and Sunday in June. It is gratifying that the city of Whitewater was generous in providing public grounds and facilities for these occasions. Although distance and urgent duties prevented my attending these meetings, I was told of their success; and was particularly impressed to learn that a great many had taken time to visit the city cemetery. They paid their respects to many relatives buried there. Some are the first ever to be laid to rest at this place.

Prior to the Whitewater group's official membership in the Reunion Association; and prior to the three meetings mentioned above, a gathering took place in the Whitewater vicinity at the farm home of Elizabeth Pollard. It is where the first Hackett homesteads were begun.

On the Pollard's large, beautiful lawn, a tent was set up which had been procured from the Whitewater Armory. All necessary equipment was assembled to accommodate a picnic. Plenty of good eats, "Hackett style" and congenial association made it one of the most memorable. North Freedom Hacketts who came to this one held on July 4, 1899 were: Timothy Hackett, John and Mary, Joel and Emily, Frank and Ann, Mary Carpenter, Julia Gray and Mary Prentice.

FORTY-SIXTH HACKETT REUNION RECORDED IN DETAIL, JUNE 1927 by Secretary Sidney J. Hackett

There were 132 registered when the Hacketts met in Whitewater on June 25 and 26, 1927, at the Guild Hall. All began arriving about 10:00 a.m. and 100 were present by noon for the bountiful picnic dinner.

After dinner, president Sam Hackett opened the afternoon program consisting of childrens' recitations and songs which had been arranged by Ethyl Hackett.

During the following business meeting, Mrs. Exilda White read minutes of the last meeting. Mrs. White deserves credit for her intense interest and manner in which she writes reports of our reunions.

Officers' election followed Cousin Sam's brief speech, "Perhaps it would be best to have a change of officers, but I've observed that in America when good citizens hold office, giving satisfaction to all, they are deserving of another term." All officers were re-elected: president, Sam Hackett; vice-president Mrs. Dency Howell; and secretary, Sidney J. Hackett.

Billy Hackett, who had motored with his wife Sadie and Mrs. Shipman from Tennessee, stood up to say this was one of the finest of all reunions. But when Glen Cole was asked to speak, he said he wasn't quite ready, as he didn't know whether to thank or cuss, since his car had caused so much trouble on the way down. Ed Hackett expressed his appreciation of the Whitewater cousins' good attendance at North Freedom. And Joe Douglas said that even though he is not a Hackett, he had been made so welcome, he felt it was good for all to get better acquainted with our families. Harley Wood expressed his extreme pleasure in being with us for the first time. He had come with his wife and two small daughters, and his mother, from Mason City, Iowa. Cousin Exilda said the very decorations seemed to reach out a hand of welcome as one entered the hall. She suggested that each member, in registering, name his occupation in order that in the future, the progress of each could be noted. "It might serve as an incentive," she said. Sam, who prefers the

last word, seemed to misconstrue Exilda's meaning. Finally she asked him, in her pleasing way, to sit down! And added that it might not only help each of us to know each other socially, but in business interests as well. So Cousin Bud said that he plainly saw Exilda needed an attorney, and he offered his training for her aid. He explained, "What Exilda meant was very clear. When you want to go for a Sunday ride, you will look up the Hackett Reunion List, see 'Joe Douglas, a poultryman', and decide that's the best place to go for chicken dinner! And so on down the list."

When we all expressed our regret that Uncle Parshall could not be with us, Cousin Nellie explained he was living by himself at Bloomer, Wisconsin. "He is perfectly happy, and in good company," she said, "for Hacketts are always in good company when they are alone." The group was also disappointed in the absence of George Hackett.

Suggestions for the next year's gathering covered Delton Lake, Devil's Lake, Minneapolis, Lake Geneva and Whitewater. Sam appointed Lewis White, Ed Hackett and Belle Cole to act as a committee with the officers for the 1928 decision.

The business meeting was followed by relay races at the city park, planned by Ethyl. The winning side received chewing gum.

Historic landmarks were visited before the supper at Guild Hall. The evening's program of dialogues, recitations and songs was directed by Ethyl. She and Irene and Hazel Hackett had composed a welcome song sung by a Whitewater group. Guests from out of town were entertained in homes in or near Whitewater.

Sunday morning we met at the city park for songs. George Hackett's letter from Minneapolis was read; and Exilda read the history of the family which George has formulated to date. It promises to be very interesting.

Mrs. Kate Welbon of Hebron, Illinois read the family history of the Abraham Hackett branch. They settled in Whitewater in 1839. His son was the first white child born in Whitewater.

Pictures were taken just before we gathered at Salisbury Hall where we enjoyed dinner. Our president dismissed us after a short program. We were a happier family for having had this Forty-sixth Annual Reunion.

Sidney J. Hackett
Secretary

THANKSGIVING DAY HACKETT'S REUNION

by Mary Hackett Prentice
November 25, 1901

What makes Tannksgiving Day so dear to every Hackett's heart?
Why do they hail it with such joy and sigh when it departs?
It is because, long years ago, dear Grandma, with love and price,
Said to her children, one and all, "This day we'll set aside
For giving thanks to Him whose hand does prosper us each year.
Let us in Family Reunion, gather from far and near."

And so it was decided that her children home should come,
And bring their families with them, for they must have their fun.
And Grandma, that dear old lady, whose locks were snowy white,
Seemed dearer to each boy and girl; to please her was their delight.
And the tie of love that united the hearts of sister and brother,
And all the loved ones gathered there, seemed closer joined together.

And now as each Thanksgiving comes, Reunion Day comes too.
And 'though Grandma has passed to the other side, to her we still are true.
No matter how the day may dawn, or cold the wind may blow,
We all jump in the family rig, and to Hackett's Hall we go.
The jolly crowd has soon arrived from north, south, east and west,
To spread the dinner the women fly as though they were possessed.

The tables are a sight to see, as 'round it they all go,
 Although some are old and feeble, they forget their step is slow.
 I wonder if it makes them think of days of long ago
 When they were home in the old log house on the banks of the Baraboo.
 But a feeling of sadness comes o'er us as we gather, year to year,
 With some of our dear ones missing; for them we drop a tear.

It has been told so many times, both in verse and glowing prose
 The way Reunion Day is spent; that everybody knows.
 So I'll not worry you with that; but before my say is through,
 Just let me tell you that on that day I'll long to be with you;
 So while you eat and laugh and talk, so happy and so gay,
 Oh! don't forget that others too, still love Reunion Day.

(Written at Deer Creek, Minnesota
 Read at Reunion on November 1901)

THE OLD FAMILY CLOCK

by Dency Hackett Gray



Dear friends of our reunion,
 As we meet again today,
 We miss our many loved ones
 That from this world have passed away.
 But as we look around the hall,
 We see an old familiar face
 For the old family clock has come today
 To take its rightful place.

Yes, the dear old clock is with us.
 It told the time of day.
 Although it now is silent,
 If it could speak, it might say,
 "I remember many of your faces,
 Although you are getting old and gray.
 I am so happy to meet with you,
 But miss those who are away."

"For many years I knew them,
 Many years I hung on their wall.
 I watched their joys and sorrows
 That are now beyond recall.
 Now there are other children,
 I've heard them shout and sing,
 Never dreaming of the sorrow
 That later years may bring."

"I remember as the years pass by,
 And they much older grow
 They, each one, found a companion
 And from the old home would go.
 Then again I've seen their sorrow
 When sickness and death came in
 To take one of their number
 From this world of care and sin."

"So they all have gone or scattered
 From the old home of long ago,
 And all have found their places
 In the years as they come and go.
 But now I am old and worn;
 My voice has long been still.
 My hands refuse to move, and yet
 My spirit seeks your will."

The old clock was put in running order by Samuel J. Hackett, and at this time
 is held by Jake in trust for the family reunion at north Freedom. (1949)

HISTORICAL STORY

HISTORY OF THE HACKETT FAMILY

INTRODUCTION

The author, in compiling this history, has had two urgent desires throughout. First, that all positive statements be based on actual facts; and second, that every branch of the family tree be represented.

To accomplish the first proposition, a great deal of inquiry with extreme care and wide research has been employed to amplify the author's intimate knowledge. Your "Family Historian" has acquired this material over a period of more than fifty years. Besides material from written records, facts have been gathered from direct contacts and conversations with persons of the second and third generations of our family. It is obvious, however, that due to widely scattered families, and lack of definite records and dates in some instances, some branches are treated less completely than others. It is hoped that those who read this history and are in possession of important facts, will present them to the family historian to be included in future revisions and additions.

Although a complete genealogy of the family has not been attempted, all information ever submitted to or discovered by the author has been used for these pages. I have chosen to use as title for this history "HISTORICAL STORY" because much of it is written in story style since many actual facts border on romance.

From the New Jersey State Library, "The History Of Northwest New Jersey" cites that one "Samuel Hackett was the earliest settler and largest land owner in Northwest New Jersey. Hackettstown was named for him in 1760. Samuel Hackett had been a lieutenant in the Revolutionary War."

In this history, Jacob and Elizabeth Hackett will represent the First Generation; as it is understood and accepted that Jacob was either the son or the grandson of Samuel mentioned in the History of Northwest New Jersey.

Referring to Jacob and Elizabeth as the First Generation, places me, George Hackett, in the Fourth Generation. However, this history extends to the seventh and possibly eighth generations. It should also be understood that this Hackett Family History applies to all families possessing any degree of Hackett origin, regardless of present name. For demonstration of the virtue of such status, one need only attend a Hackett Reunion.

Authority for the origin of the Hackett name and family is found in a "Genealogical and Historical Sketch" obtained from the Media Research Bureau at Washington, D.C. It is recommended by the Congressional Library. Only excerpts from the Sketch will be used in this book. When I have referred to this authority, I have used the term "Sketch". It has been very interesting to me to note throughout the Sketch how well it applies to the Hacketts in general as we know them at this much later date. Quotations will be found later.

EXCERPT FROM "SKETCH"

THE NAME AND FAMILY OF HACKETT By Media Research Bureau

"The name HACKETT is derived from the baptismal name of Hake, through its diminutive form, Haket. It was first taken as a patronymic by the sons of those so called. Bradsley, one of the foremost authorities on the origin of English surnames, states, "There can be no doubt about this origin. Although forgotten now, Hake, Haket and Hacon were very familiar in the surname period." In ancient British and early American records, the name appears in the various forms of Haket, Haget, Haggett, Haggitt, Hagit, Hacket, Hackett, Hacket, Hackett, and numerous variations of which the last mentioned spelling is that most generally used in America today.

Families bearing this name were resident at early dates in the English Counties of Warwish, Lincoln, Buckingham, York, Somerset, Stafford, and Kent; as well as in the city and vicinity of London. At later dates families were also living in various parts of Ireland, including the counties of Carlow, Kings, Wicklow and Dublin. These families were, for the most part, of the landed gentry and yeomanry of Great Britain.

Among the earliest definite records of the name in England are: Mabil or Mabel Haket, of Lincolnshire in the year 1273; Rolland Haket, of Lincolnshire about the same time; Ralph Haket, of London, before the end of the thirteenth century; John Haket, of Yorkshire in the year 1379.

The London line of the family was represented about the middle of the sixteenth century by Thomas Hackett, who was the father of Sir Cuthbert and Anne. Sir Cuthbert, Mayor and Alderman of London, married Judeth, daughter of Richard Woar of London; and had issue by her of four children, Richard, Roger, Thomas and Judeth. Other records of the family in London mention Richard Hackett who was the father, in the year 1586, of a son named Ralph; but the record of this line is not complete.

Andrew Hackett, of Putferin, Scotland, lived in the latter part of the sixteenth century. He was the father of the Right Reverend John Hackett, Lord Bishop of Lichfield in Straffordshire. He died in 1670, more than seventy eight years old.

The Reverend John Hackett was twice married and had numerous issues. It is undoubtedly from this line that we inherit the Scotch in our "Scotch-Irish" breeding.

The earliest mention of the Hackett name in New England is of William and Henry at Salem, Massachusetts in 1642; Jazbel at Lynn, Massachusetts in 1644; and William at Dover, New Hampshire in 1656. The Sketch states it is probably the same William who was living in Boston, Massachusetts in 1689. In all probability it is from one of these families that our family tree originates. They settled in northern New England; and a Thomas Hackett was living at Mannington, New Jersey.

A few of the many members of the family who have distinguished themselves in America in more recent times are:

Thomas C. Hackett (d. 1851) - of Georgia; a Congressman.

James Henry Hackett (1800-1871) - of New York; an actor.

Frank Warren Hackett (b. 1841) - of New Hampshire; lawyer and author.

Richard Nathaniel Hackett (b. 1866) - of North Carolina; Congressman and lawyer.

James Keteltas Hackett (1869-1926) - of Canada and New York; actor and theatrical manager.

Horatio Balch Hackett (1808-1875) - of Massachusetts and New York; Baptist clergyman and educator.

While we have no data connecting our family with any of these, it is altogether likely there is direct lineage connection.

OUR HERITAGE

There are natural "trends" in families which persist through succeeding generations, become traditions, and are cherished as "heritage." We have such a heritage. While delving into the history of the Hackett family, I have become deeply impressed with the value of our heritage.

Traditionally, our forbears have been agrarians and date back to the earliest history in England where many of them were "of the landed gentry." With deep rooted love for nature, Hacketts in America have almost instinctively answered this honorable calling.

In pursuit of subsistence as well as better opportunities for themselves and posterity, they accepted the challenge and hardships incident to pioneering new frontiers.

We, of the present generation, are of that posterity. How thankful we should be for the foresight, good judgement and sturdy valor exercised by our forbears. They chose for us one of the garden spots of the world for our habitation. Also, our "Hackett heritage" makes us individualists; lovers of freedom and action, ambitious to succeed; we ask only opportunity to exert God-given talents with

courage and perseverance. Hacketts, practicing religious principle, have always been supporters and promoters of every good Cause; law-abiding, and true to the ideals of good citizenship.

The present requires a lower percentage of the people to be engaged in farming. Our younger people have turned to "pioneering" in the fields of art, science, and professional industry. They are making good at it, under conditions our early ancestors could not have foreseen.

This, then, is our heritage; and it is incumbent on us to pass it on to posterity.

THE STORY BEGINS

THE FAMILY TREE

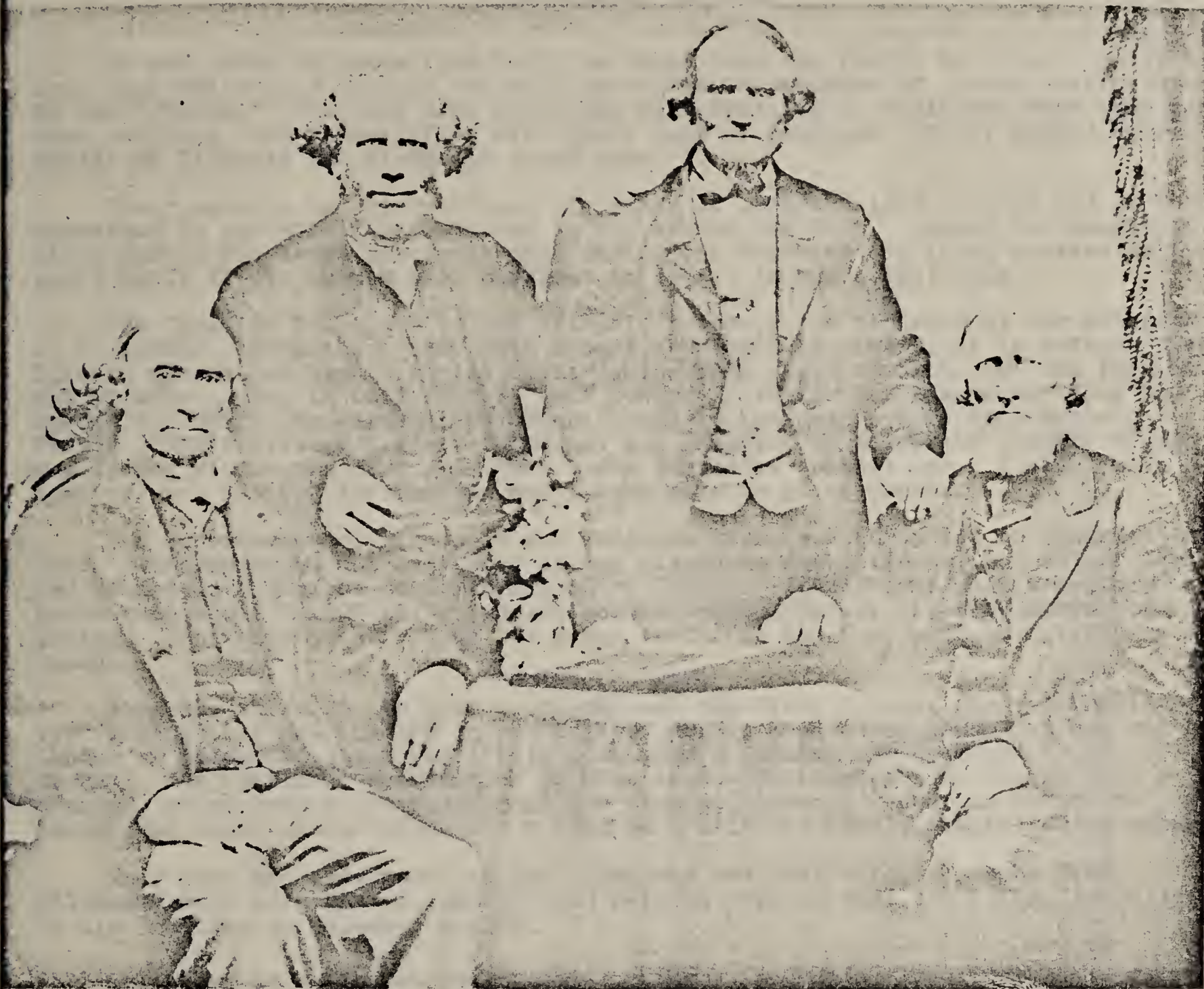
Jacob Hackett and his wife Elizabeth (Moore) Hackett will be regarded as the First Generation throughout this story. Jacob was the son or grandson of Samuel Hackett, founder of Hackettstown, New Jersey. He is known by tradition to be the origin of our particular branch of the Hackett family.

Whether or not Jacob was born at Hackettstown is not definitely known. The date of his birth was about 1772. He married Miss Elizabeth Moore of Pennsylvania in 1803. Her father was widely known as "Johnnie Moore the Weaver," which establishes his vocation. His wife was of Dutch descent, and the family was Quaker. Jacob was a blacksmith, and it is evident they began their married life in the extreme northwest corner of the state of New Jersey. Elder members of the family whom I have known say that Jacob told he could "throw his hammer into three states from the front of his shop." From this, it might be possible to locate the exact spot on which his home stood where New York, Pennsylvania and New Jersey join. It is probable, too, that it was located on the extensive land holdings of Samuel, as recorded in history.

My aunts, Mary Carpenter and Julia Gray were grandchildren of Jacob and Elizabeth. My aunts and others of the family told me how well they remembered Elizabeth's charm and refinement. I believe they migrated to Canada at the same time the younger couple did. No further details of their residence in New Jersey have been secured aside from the birth of four of their nine children previous to their leaving New Jersey in 1812. The names of these children are: Samuel, born 1805; John, 1806; Isaac, 1808; Elizabeth, 1809; Abraham, 1811. Their second daughter, Anna, was born on October 5, 1812 near Niagara Falls when they were enroute to Ontario. Further issue in Canada were: Hannah, 1814; Jacob, 1818; Rachael, 1816.

I have not been able to obtain any definite data of their activities in Canada. However, it is remembered that Jacob continued to ply his trade as a blacksmith. Samuel, his eldest son, learned the trade from his father, and it became most useful to him later as he met the experiences of pioneering in Illinois and Wisconsin.

The section in which the family settled was known as "Upper Canada," as the elevation was higher than that at Quebec. The county was then York, (later Peel) and Chinguacousy was the name of the township. This was about 20 miles southwest of Toronto; and 35 or 40 miles north of Hamilton. The country was slightly rolling and timbered. The soil was very fertile, but preparing it for cultivation was hard work with the primitive facilities they had. They built for themselves a large, double log house on the 160 acres of land which was the homestead of Jacob Sr. It first housed the family of Jacob and Elizabeth; and also her parents, John and Elizabeth Moore. Samuel and Dancy took over a part of the house after their marriage, and eight of their fifteen children were born there. The eldest of these were from eight to twelve years of age when the family left Canada. These children retained a vivid memory of the house, of their grandparents and also of their great-grandparents. Indians were plentiful in that section, and all the hardships of pioneering in new country were experienced by the family. In 1906, my father and my sister Laura visited our relatives in that same locality. They visited the original homestead, and found it to be one of the best farms in the vicinity. Their welcome was most cordial. They were well entertained by many families, always with the accustomed serving of tea in the traditional English manner. They were well impressed with what they saw and with the relatives whom they met.



John Sr. Jacob Abraham Samuel

(Second generation)

CHILDREN OF JACOB AND ELIZABETH HACKETT

There were nine children born to this union. We have record of these, but many details are missing. They were:

Samuel, b. April 14, 1805, in New Jersey; d. February 1873.

John Sr. b. July 5, 1806, in New Jersey; d. at Whitewater, February 16, 1886.

Isaac, b. 1808, in New Jersey; d. in infancy.

Elizabeth (Wilson) b. 1809, in New Jersey; d.

Abraham, b. September 30, 1811, in New Jersey; d. Whitewater, October 5, 1885.

Anna (Parker) b. October 5, 1812 in New York; d. in Ontario.

Hannah (Mc Gee) b. 1814, in Ontario; d.

Rachel (Warren) b. 1816, in Ontario; d.

Jacob, b. August 3, 1818, in Ontario; d. May 11, 1898 at North Freedom, Wisconsin

THE CANADA SOJOURN

It was about 25 years from the time Jacob took his family to Ontario until his four sons decided to explore the much advertised advantages of a vast section down in the "States." The sons were grown men with families of their own when they became restless, and dissatisfied with their lack of progress. Newly opened territories of Illinois and Wisconsin lured them.

Their parents had died between the years of 1834 and 1838. Jacob had left the homestead to his wife Elizabeth and to his second son John. Samuel had bought it after that. The large parchment deed making the transfer was in my possession for years until it was burned with our home in 1943. It was a real loss.

The Canadian homestead is now valuable property, as reported by our relative J. H. Parker. From the meager data I have been able to obtain, it is evident that life in Canada had been a series of hardships from first to last. Of the Parkers and Wilsons living in Ontario now, only Joseph H. Parker has responded to my requests for data. He lives at Mt. Dennis, and is the grandson of Anna Hackett Parker. Elsie Wilson, sister of Thomas, and daughter of Elizabeth Hackett Wilson, was living within the past year, but I was unable to contact her. I might have secured much desired information had I been able to go to Canada.

The territories of Wisconsin and Illinois were created by act of Congress in 1836. This included not only what is now Wisconsin and Illinois, but all of Iowa and Minnesota and parts of North and South Dakota. In all this vast territory there were about 20,000 white population; and approximately the same number of Indians. The rich country with its great resources had been well advertised up in Canada.

Abraham, third of the four brothers, was the first to make the venture investigating this new country in the fall of 1838. He crossed Lake Michigan and landed at Milwaukee which was little more than a landing for westward bound traffic. He continued west as far as what is now Whitewater. He was so well pleased, he secured a homestead near the tiny settlement. Upon his return to Canada, he began preparations for a trek back with his family the following spring.

They came the same route he had travelled the year before. Roads from Milwaukee were mere trails, and it took several days to make the fifty five miles to his location in Walworth county.

The story he had taken back to his brothers in Canada fired them with desire for the adventure. So John followed Abraham's route to the same location the next spring. But Samuel, with his larger family, decided on what he thought would be an easier route by way of the Great Lakes from Toronto to a port on the west shore of Lake Erie; thence overland by team. He was headed for the Whitewater location.

The story of their hardships in traveling over rough trails through Indiana and Illinois; driving stock and fording streams and meeting many hazards was related to me by "Uncle Tim." Tim was a boy of eight. It was his job to help in driving the stock. Their most perilous experience was while fording the Rock River at Rockford, Illinois. The wagon which was carrying the family nearly capsized, giving them all a scare in view of the calamity such a disaster would have caused.

Weary of the hardships of travel, they decided to settle at a point in northern Illinois. It was just south of the Wisconsin boundary, about thirty five miles from the Whitewater location. It seemed to offer the advantages they were seeking.

Our aunt, Dency Gray, was a baby but three weeks old when Samuel's family left Canada. She was the youngest of the eight children between infancy and twelve years of age who took that journey. When we contemplate the fortitude required to look after and care for children on such a hazardous trip, we are amazed. It is revealing to learn what our own pioneer forbears experienced to achieve "the better life" for themselves and for us.

OUR RELATIVES IN ONTARIO, CANADA

The two daughters of Jacob and Elizabeth Hackett who remained in Canada were: Elizabeth, who married John Wilson; and Anna, who married John Parker. Both of these men were of Scotch descent. The Wilsons appear to have been progressive and of true refinement.

It will be remembered by some still living that cousin Thomas of the third generation, and his son Roy, 16, visited in North Freedom in December of 1902. A reception and dinner was given them by the Hacketts. Thomas was about 50 years old at the time; gentlemanly in appearance, soft spoken and possessing every evidence of refinement. He told us all about the relatives in Canada. He particularly stressed the high esteem felt for his "Aunt Annie" Parker, and told of the hard lot she had endured in rearing her family while her husband was dissipating. This is borne out by statements from her grandson, Joseph H. Parker, my only Canadian contact.

Of the Wilson family, he has supplied the fact that seven children were born to Elizabeth Hackett Wilson. They are: William, John, Jennet, Elizabeth, Anthony, Thomas and Elsie. Dates were not known. The family home was at Brampton. Elsie, the youngest, was still living in 1945, but efforts at contact failed. Nor was there any response from the Thomas Wilson family. Thomas spent considerable time at Whitewater during his young manhood; and it is known his death occurred in 1930. His brother John lived at St. Cloud, Minnesota for many years; I once met his widow there, but failed to secure data I would now like to have. Pictures of the Wilson family which include Elizabeth, the mother, will be found herewith or in the family album. They indicate that all I have written of them may well be true.



Thomas John Elizabeth Elsie Wilson - brothers & sisters

ANNA HACKETT PARKER

AND THE PARKER FAMILY

Anna Hackett Parker was born at or near Niagara Falls on October 5, 1812, while the family was enroute to Ontario. She was married to John Parker on her 16th birthday, and became the mother of eight children. Their names, in order of age, were: Hannah, Abraham, John, Sarah, Alice, Mary Jane, Jacob and William. William was born in 1850, and died in 1940. He never married. No other dates are given.

There are still many members of the Parker family living in Ontario. J. H. Parker, grandson of Alice Hackett Parker, resides at 52 Northland Avenue, Mt. Dennis, Ontario. He did not include much data when he sent pictures of himself and his family. I might have been able to obtain other information had I been able to go to Canada.



Anna H. Parker



Abram Hackett
& wife



Jacob & Jerusha
Hackett



Sam'l & D. Hackett



John Hackett Sr.



Eliza Hackett

This same Joseph Parker was the main contact my father and sister Laura enjoyed when they visited our relatives in Canada in 1906. That was before I had become seriously interested in what was expected of me as family historian. Sister Laura was called from among us before she might have recorded that visit for this record.

It is hoped that even yet, future efforts may disclose more of the history of our relatives to the north.

SAMUEL AND DENCY TERRY HACKETT

Thus far I have dealt only briefly with the general trends and movements of the family, but will now proceed to record more detail in the lives of individuals whose performance makes this story possible.

With the "family tree" rooted in Jacob and Elizabeth as the FIRST generation, I now term their children the SECOND generation. This history will treat them in the order of their ages, which brings Samuel first on the list.

Samuel was born at or near Hackettstown, New Jersey, on April 14, 1805. At the age of seven, he migrated with his parents to "Upper Canada," 1812, where he grew to manhood. His childhood days were spent in helping his father develop the homestead secured in the County of York, town of Chinguicousy, about 20 miles southwest of Toronto.

He married Miss Dency Terry of Palmyra, New York, on July 27th, 1825. They immediately took up residence in part of the large double log house of his father. There, he continued to work with his father, developing the homestead. Description of this place in greater detail will be found in stories herein recorded by my aunts Mary Carpenter and Julia Gray, as well as their brother Timothy who was eight years old when the family left Canada.

By an elaborate parchment deed, I learned of the transfer of the homestead by Jacob to Elizabeth, his wife, and to John, his second son. It was with the provision that title should go to Samuel after his mother's death. Both Jacob and Elizabeth had passed on by 1835; the property reverted to Samuel who disposed of it before he and his brothers left Canada in 1839, as is elsewhere recorded. From all evidence available, it is certain that life in Canada was not an easy road to fortune. They were glad to move on when the time seemed opportune.

Before going into detail of their experiences in pioneering the vast new territories, it is interesting to note that Walworth county was surveyed and organized about the time Abraham made his first trip there. Sauk county was not organized until the year Samuel located in the Baraboo Valley in 1849. The "Red men" were numerous throughout the whole area and relations with them were generally friendly and peaceable. The nearest railroad was at Milwaukee, and wagon roads, such as they were, were sometimes impassable during the spring season. Neighbors and schools were far apart, but cooperation was friendly and substantial. Churches were soon built, and roads improved gradually. There was no caste among the settlers and each was interested in the other's welfare.

It is evident that the ten years' residence of Samuel and family while in Illinois, was regarded by them as temporary. Their frequent trips to visit his brothers at Whitewater instilled growing interest in Wisconsin. Many early settlers of Sauk County came from Walworth County. Samuel undoubtedly learned of the Baraboo Valley on some of his visits to Whitewater, and he ventured into the valley in December of 1848. His impressions were so favorable, he filed his Government Patent on the homestead near what is now North Freedom.

The beauty, fertility and promise apparent in this picturesque valley must have given him a great thrill. The fact that he could readily possess a portion of it must have been the fulfillment of a dream long entertained. Although it was December, and snow deeply covered the ground, he knew what to look for as evidence of fertility. He recognized the advantages of the winding Baraboo river, the spring on its bank; the splendid timber for building material and the hard maples for making sugar. We can well imagine the tale he told to the family on his return to Illinois. They lost no time in making preparations for moving on to the "promised land." Three months later, we find them in Baraboo which was but a village of less than 300 population and few buildings to suggest permanency.

When they arrived in Baraboo on March 27, 1849, there were nine children in the family, and one would be born in two months. Mary, the eldest, had married in Illinois, and was left behind for the time being; but followed later. There was no building of any sort on the premises which was to become home to them; and March in Wisconsin is no time to be "camping out." Within two or three days, Samuel had found shelter and opportunity at the farm of Archibald Barker, a few miles northwest of Baraboo. It is still known as "The Barker Farm." They lived and farmed at Barker's through the summer. In spare time they built the large log house and other needed buildings on their own place which was on the banks of the Baraboo river. Samuel and his four sons accomplished the building, as well as William Carpenter, husband of Mary who had arrived from Illinois in June. They worked fast to make ready for the winter.

Samuel had learned the blacksmith trade in his father's shop in Canada. Construction of a small log blacksmith shop, in addition to the other buildings, proved a great help. For not only did the craft serve his needs, but those of others who were settling in the vicinity.

Grandfather was not only a farmer and blacksmith. He did the family cobbling as well. Although I was a very small boy when I knew him, I remember him at his forge, at his shoemaker's bench which stood near the old fireplace. And on one occasion, I saw him on a grain stack, stacking. Our home joined the "homestead," and I often went down to grandma's. One memorable inducement was her tarts which she seemed always to have ready for me.

Grandmother was rather tall and slender. Her complexion was light, and her hair must have been auburn when she was younger; but gray from my earliest recollection. I well remember her sitting at her spinning wheel, spinning tow from flax fibre from which she used to make home-spun clothes for her flock. I've seen her in her small milk-house which was set a short distance from her kitchen door. It was built over a slight depression of perhaps two feet which made it cool in summer. Oh, how white and sweet scented it always was with its whitewash! It stood in the shade of giant oaks which crowned the knoll that rose gradually from the river. These oaks stood at the south, forming a sort of court. The milkhouse and a hedge flanked the west side; and the long log house was at the north. The spacious "door-yard," as lawns were then called, was covered by a thick carpet of "knot-grass," a native grass we no longer see. North of the house was a large garden, fenced in by native hawthorne hedge in true English fashion. I have been told that it was the girls of the family who cleared and planted this garden plot the first summer. And they transplanted the thorn-apple bushes to form the hedge. This garden gave the family their first products from the homestead.

Samuel was a man of fine physique and good personality. He was about 5 feet 8 inches in height, and weighed about 160 to 170 pounds. He always wore a natural beard which was white, as I remember him. My uncle Jay Loomis, my mother's brother, is now the oldest man living who knew grandfather well. He worked for grandfather. He tells me that of all the sons, Joel and Frank who was my father, most resembled their father. From the "Sketch" we learned that the original Hacketts in England were mostly of the "landed gentry" as well as heads of large families. Samuel and his brothers demonstrated the continuance of that characteristic.

I was but a little more than five years of age when my grandfather died in February of 1873. I shall vividly remember forever the moment my father took us down to have our last look at grandfather after his death. The flickering light of the fireplace shone with a ghastly shade on his face as the curtains of sheets were drawn apart. While it was shocking to a child of my age, I shall always be glad I had that experience. The following day we stood at the window of a neighbor's home to watch the long procession pass over the long route to Ebenezer Church for the funeral service; thence another mile to the cemetery where he and grand-

mother have rested side by side through the years. This cemetery is only a short distance from the Barker Farm where these pioneers and their family spent their first summer in the Baraboo Valley while preparing their own home. Many a time, through the years, I have stopped to visit the spot and contemplate those thoughts and aspirations which urged them on into this new country which proved so well chosen. I recall, too, that on one occasion the entire Reunion group went in a body to pay reverence.

I get pleasure out of trying to visualize the activities of that first summer when four boys between the ages of 14 and 20 did a man's work in helping their father build; with three or four sisters doing their part. It is little wonder that swift progress was made. In the years which followed immediately, Samuel Hackett was able to add two 40 acre tracts to his holdings, through thrift and industry. One of the fortys a half mile south of the homestead had a great forest of large maples used in extension of maple sugar making. The other forty, with its northwest corner at the center of the main intersection in North Freedom, comprised nearly all of the south slope of the big bluff at the north of the village. Most of this forty has long been occupied by a large residential portion of North Freedom. All of the residences have been placed there within my memory. Anyone desiring to locate the original homestead could find the northwest corner of it one half mile east of the main corners in North Freedom, originally called "Hackett's Corners."

Little need be said in praise or commendation of any man whose practices in life kept so large a family of children with, or near him to cooperate with him and pay him their lasting respects.

Samuel was but half the parenthood, and we know well the influence a good mother has on her family. My personal recollections of my grandmother are altogether happy and full of reverence. Besides encouraging my visits with tempting tarts, she always had time to consider my whims and hurts; and she used to tell me stories.

She was born Dency Terry at or near Palmyra, New York, one of a large family. They were of English descent. Their arrival in the United States dated back to three brothers who came about the same time the Hacketts first landed. It was near Palmyra, New York where it is claimed the "golden plates" were discovered which are the basis of the origin of the Latter Day Saint Church. The Terry family, including Dency, became devout followers of that faith, as thousands in that vicinity did. But Dency never accepted the doctrines of that branch of the church which finally located in Utah. However, her parents and brothers and sisters did, and they migrated to that country. That fact accounts for the trip the folks took in later years to visit grandmother's people in Salt Lake. Uncle Parshall Hackett's account mentions this. I do know that my grandmother was firmly grounded in her own faith, and was one of the most sincere and devout Christians I've ever known. Late in his life, Samuel embraced this faith, and lived it to the end of his days. History says of him, "He was a good man morally; honest and upright in his dealings with mankind." That is surely demonstrated Christianity.

(Third generation.)

CHILDREN OF SAMUEL AND DENCY HACKETT

Mary Hackett (Carpenter) b. April 14, 1827; Ontario, Canada; died January 14, 1910, at North Freedom.

George, b. January 30, 1829; Ontario. d.

Julia Hackett (Gray) b. January 30, 1829; d. 1901 at North Freedom.

Timothy, b. March 26, 1831; Ontario. d. November 7, 1917 at North Freedom.

John, b. July 30, 1833; Ontario. d. 1914 at North Freedom.

Joel, b. August 27, 1835; Ontario. d. January 23, 1917 at North Freedom.

Hannah E. Hackett (Gile) b. May 15, 1837; Ontario. d.

Dency Hackett (Gray) b. May 13, 1839; d. January 23, 1915.



Parshall Hackett Frank Joel John Timothy
Dency Gray Hannah Julia Mary George

"The Royal Ten" - Hacketts - Brothers & Sisters

Frank, b. Illinois January 18, 1843; d. North Freedom, October 10, 1916

William J., b. January 18, 1843; Illinois; d. 1863 in Utah.

Parshall T., b. November 8, 1844; Illinois; d. April 3, 1932 in Minnesota.

Sarah, b. June 10, 1846; d. in infancy in Illinois.

Cornelius, b. October 24, 1847; d. in infancy in Illinois.

Wesley, b. May 31, 1849; d. 1850 in Wisconsin.

Jacob, b. January 8, 1852 at North Freedom; d. September 24, 1855.

Of these fifteen children born to Samuel and Dency Hackett, ten of them lived to ripe old age, the youngest of them dying at the age of 76. They were often called "The Royal Ten." At the time of their passing, four of the sons and two of the daughters lived on premises they owned which had been original holdings of their parents. This represents a remarkable cleavage to family ties, trends and traditions.

JOHN HACKETT, SENIOR (Second generation)

by Bell Hackett Scholl (his granddaughter)

John Hackett was born in New Jersey on July 5, 1806. At the age of six, he migrated to Ontario, Canada with his parents Jacob and Elizabeth. The country was wild and timbered, but fertile. John grew to manhood here.

In 1835 he married Eliza Wilson. Eliza was born in North Ireland on August 1, 1818 and had migrated to Canada with her parents when she was a little girl. She is remembered as a woman of fine personality with high ideals, ambition; and was an indulgent mother.

Born to this union, while yet in Canada, were: James, Elizabeth and John.

The tide and urge of migration was ever westward, and already John's brother Abraham had "pursued the rainbow" to the Wisconsin Territory. Abraham's report was so enthusiastic, John and Elizabeth decided to take the great adventure.

It was in the fall of 1840 that they journeyed by rail and boat, with their three small children. After crossing Lake Michigan to Milwaukee, they were met at Milwaukee by Abraham who escorted them to the frontier settlement that we know as Whitewater. The 60 miles journey by oxteam and wagon took several days on the difficult trails. Abraham had selected and located in a still newer section two miles south of the settlement. John and his family moved in with them until he could find the land he wanted and make the necessary improvements to accomodate his family.

Setting out in search of the desired tract, John followed paths made by deer and Indians. It was about one mile south of his brother's place that the trails led to a spring of running water. This was a great asset in a new country. He dug deeply into the soil, surveyed his surroundings, and decided that this spot held all the possibilities for the fulfillment of his dreams. During the springtime or during heavy rains, the location often became a virtual island. For many years it was known as "Hackett's Island," and is still referred to as "The Island" although it never becomes surrounded by water anymore. There were 120 acres in the tract which John selected; and he bought it from the Government at \$1.25 per acre.

They set to work at once to build a log house and barn near the spring of water. In the early spring of 1841, they moved into their new home. They knew it would require hard labor and privation; but they were happy to have a home of their own with bright prospects for the future. This location, a mile south of Abraham's place, was in section 21.

The passing years proved the correctness of their judgement regarding quality of soil, estimate of effort in developing homestead and country, and in future prospects. Subsistence depended on what they could produce. Land had to be cleared, seed for planting had to be secured, and there was little of either available. All were in the same boat. During the first years the limited fare consisted of potatoes, beans, bread, salt pork, and butter when they could produce it. Pork fats were often a substitute for butter.

Many diseases common to a new country came from natural causes, or improper diet. They were a serious drawback, for doctors were few and roads too often impassable. But as time passed, other settlers came in and all worked together for the common good. Roads were laid out and crudely improved; low places were bridged by cutting logs and laying them side by side in the mud. These were called "the logway" and made passage possible. Yet, when settlers went to town during the wet season, they managed to have several teams of oxen to make the trip in order that they could pull each other out.

I recall hearing my mother tell how her mother used to walk the three miles to Whitewater, carrying baskets of eggs and other farm products when there were some to spare. Often, after her long walk, the price offered her at the store would be so low, she would carry her products to the minister as a donation. That was the customary way of supporting ministers in those days. Early pioneers were able to get along because Nature was bountiful. They sun dried native fruits, and preserved them for winter.

As more settlers came in and families increased, a school was needed. The first school was held in the home of a neighbor, David Hamilton, whose daughter Elizabeth served as teacher. But soon a log schoolhouse was built near by, later replaced by a frame building which eventually burned. A still finer frame schoolhouse was constructed on the new highway which had been put through. It still stands, and is known as the "Island School." Meanwhile, roads were being improved, a church and cheese factory had been built near the school; and better buildings were taking the place of original ones. The John Hackett house had been moved to a new location, and was later replaced by a large frame house which was later to become the home of the eldest son, James. There his large family was raised.

John and Eliza had brought their two sons and one daughter, born in Canada, with them. Born to them on their homestead were Margaret, Jean, Julia and William.

The fields were fertile, and the sturdy people were ambitious to the point of

considering a blacksmith shop, store and post office to serve the community. But before this took place, changes had come which marked Whitewater as the logical business center, and all were glad they had not attempted these developments.

Soon after Abraham and John had settled in the Whitewater section, they were followed by their younger brother, Jacob, yet unmarried. He later married and bought a farm near the Pollard farm. He took an active interest in all developments of the community. Few pioneers, if any, did more to develop this rich and promising section than these three brothers. It is altogether likely that Abraham and John may have been the first white men to set foot upon the land which became their homesites. All who knew them vouched for their sterling worth and value to the community. Despite hardships and privation, their pleasures were genuine. All shared each others "weal and woe," and always extended a helping hand to those in need.

Their older brother, Samuel, had settled in Illinois near the Wisconsin line directly south of Whitewater in 1839. Ten years later he migrated to the Baraboo Valley in Sauk County, blazing the trail. Whitewater Hacketts used to make occasional visits to see him and his family. They had to go by team, and sometimes crossed the Wisconsin river at Portage. They crossed at Sauk City or at Kilbourn on other trips, and these crossings had to be made by ferry as there were no bridges at that time.

I have heard them tell stories of their experiences enroute, and the fine times they had. The Hacketts are well known for friendliness and sociability; and this was particularly true in the pioneer days when there were more obstacles! One of their visits to their brother Samuel's home held an incident often related at later gatherings of the family. They were having a great feast in country style when someone remarked, "Every time the elbow bends, the mouth opens." My mother and her brother James were small children at the time; and the remark with its ensuing laughter so confused them, they refused to eat; and became very hungry before they could become reconciled. This commonplace, simple incident was made good use of for many years as a good joke on Mother and Uncle Jim.

During my own girlhood and early married life, before the days of the automobile, several of our Whitewater families continued these annual treks to North Freedom attending the Hackett Reunion.

Gold had been discovered in Colorado prior to 1860, and grandfather became interested. He had put in twenty years in the development and improvement of his homestead. As the older children approached full maturity his property was in fine shape. Leaving my grandmother in charge of the place, with other available help, he answered the urge to go west and try his luck at gold mining. With other like-minded neighbors, a caravan of covered wagons was formed, and on May 1st, 1860 they started out. These neighbors were: Mr. and Mrs. John Peacock and child, and George and Cyrus Doubleday, and others. They had waited until grass was plentiful enough to furnish feed for their teams of horses and their cows. Cows were essential in prairie schooner transportation for the food and milk they provided.

They found the trip delightful with the newness of the country and freshness of spring and its abundance of flowers. Their destination was Russell's Gulch. They found gold there in sufficient quantity to pay them, financially, even though they were gone from home for five years.

They returned in 1865 at the close of the Civil War when troublesome Indians made travel particularly dangerous. Indians were losing no opportunity to steal white babies at that time. A baby had been born to the Peacock's at Russell's Gulch, and there were other children. It kept the men of the party busy and alerted protecting the women and little ones. They slept with guns in their hands, for not only Indians, but bandits as well were attacking and robbing miners returning from the California gold fields. At the Mississippi River, where crossing was made by boat, the boat took them up stream a considerable distance from the usual landing to elude the Indians. A detachment of soldiers awaited them so a safe landing could be made.

In due time they arrived home safely, well enough paid, financially, for the trip. Yet I know that my grandfather always felt it was hardly worth the sacrifice he had made in being absent from his family for so long. Although they had made extensive explorations in Colorado and enroute, they found nothing which they felt compared with Wisconsin. They returned fully satisfied to remain here.

On February 17, 1869, Eliza died at the early age of 51 years. She was beloved and esteemed by all who knew her. She was buried in Oakgrove cemetery in Whitewater.

After several years of loneliness, John went to North Freedom and married his brother Samuel's widow, mingling happily with relatives until his wife died. He then returned to Whitewater, and for the two remaining years of his life, lived with his daughter and her husband, Lib and James Pollard. His death occurred on February 16, 1886. He was laid to rest beside his first wife, Eliza.

Through his years, and wherever he went, he was affectionately called "Uncle Johnnie" and is thus referred to unto this day. He never wanted to be waited upon or feel dependent on anyone. One of his favorite sayings was, "We'll scratch the match and try it again" when he had failed to accomplish what he attempted. Another of his sayings was, when someone would offer to help him put on his overcoat, "When I can't put on my own coat, I'll not wear it." And so he went through life, always ready to help, but never wanting to be helped. He was quick in action, speech, and decision; but always kindly and compassionate with his family, and generous as a neighbor.

HISTORY OF THE ABRAHAM HACKETT FAMILY

Compiled by Katherine Hackett Welbon,
granddaughter of Abraham.

Abraham Hackett was born in Hackettstown, New Jersey on September 30, 1811, and departed from this life on October 5, 1885.

He was united in marriage to Mary Randall who was born October 26, 1816, and died on May 4, 1852.

To this union were born the following children: Jacob, William, Abram, Joseph, Mary Jane, Ellie and Ryan.

They came to Whitewater to live in 1839 when it was unsettled and populated with Indians and Negroes. Joseph, their fourth child, was the first child of white parents, born in that settlement.

Jacob, evidently named for his grandfather, was born in Canada, and came to Whitewater with his parents when a child. He grew to maturity there, and married Anne Peacock of that place. Soon afterward they moved to Cresco, Iowa, and it is known they raised a family there. Further record is not available.

William married Katherine Van Scorick. They lived most of their married life in Huntley, Illinois. To this union no children were born. They both passed away at Huntley.



Wm. Huntley



Mrs. Wm. Huntley



Abraham Hackett

Joseph married Lydia Holden and lived in Whitewater, but moved to Palmyra, Wisconsin later. Seven children were born to this union; two passed away in infancy. The others are: Lilly, Charley, Frank, Bert and Elmer. Charles died at the age of twenty one. Lilly married Ed Hooper and was taken from her family. She was the mother of nine children. They are: Allie, of Dousman, Wisconsin; Maude Jennings of Richland Center, Wisconsin; Leona O'Donnell of Elkhorn, Wisconsin.

sin; Alice Wilear of Delavan; Lena Thayer of Whitewater; Edna Holcomb, Emma, Bernice and Albert of Palmyra. Frank is the father of five children, namely: Howard of Jefferson, Roy of Edgerton, Bertha, Lawrence and Florence of Palmyra; these latter three live with their parents. Bert who lives in Palmyra is the father of one child, Betty. Elmer is in Oregon, and unmarried.

Mary Jane Hackett married Samuel Reams. Most of their married life was spent in Hampshire, Illinois, and there they passed away. To this union four children were born, namely: Ida Peterson of Marengo, Illinois; Charles of Hampshire, Illinois; Eugene of California; and Jenny of McHenry, Illinois. Ida was the mother of five children. Ruby, Martha and Arthur are at home with their mother. Maggie passed away at the age of twenty six, in 1922. Charles is the father of four children, namely: Anna, Esther, Madge and Roger. Anna is a resident of Sycamore and the others of Hampshire, Illinois. Jenny is the mother of two boys, Lloyd and Claron. Lloyd is married and is the father of one child, Margery in residence at Volo. Claron is at home with his parents. Eugene has no family.

Ellie Hackett married John Vote and lived most of their married life in Iowa. To this union fourteen children were born, but further information I have been unable to secure.

Ryan Hackett lived in Oregon.

In 1853, Abraham married Mrs. Lydia Waterbury. To them was born one son, Lindsay, who is living in California.

Although our father wasn't the youngest of the Abraham Hackett family, I am leaving the history of him and his children for the last. He was born in Canada on December 1, 1836 and died very suddenly of heart disease November 13, 1906. While plowing a field, he dropped behind the plow. The faithful horses stood quietly, never dragging him a foot. Reins were loosened when friends found him and carried his lifeless body home.

On February 13, 1861, he married Mary Ridge who was born in Monmouthshire; England on October 12, 1841. She had come to the United States soon after May 8, 1856 and passed away January 25, 1884. She died of heart disease, having been in poor health for several years. Their married life was spent in Whitewater. To this union nine children were born: Charles Alfred, Arthur Eugene, Ida Lavina, William Milford, Alice Mary, Edgar Ridge, Harley Theodore, Katherine Melvina and Nellie Jane.

Charles was born January 20, 1863. He is a resident of Madison, South Dakota. He married Minnie White on December 31, 1885. She suffered a stroke of apoplexy, and passed away on January 15, 1912. Two daughters were born to them: Kessie and Lucille. Kessie married George Myers and lives at Richmond, Illinois. She is the mother of two daughters, Avis and Marion. Lucille married Harold Graning and lives in Canton, South Dakota. She has one daughter, Jean. Charles later married Cora Vail. He died on June 15, 1931.

Arthur was born February 26, 1865. He is a resident of Milwaukee. He married Hattie Robinson and is the father of four children: Harry, Inez, and Elton, all residents of Milwaukee; Arthur having passed away in infancy. Harry is the father of three boys; Arthur, Robert and Norman. Inez and Elton are unmarried. Arthur died April 22, 1928.

Ida was born October 6, 1866. She married Arthur Dies; and is the mother of one daughter, Flossie, who was taken from her at the age of nineteen, having been an invalid nearly her entire life. On April 15, 1926, Ida married Will Warren and resided in St. Paul, Minnesota. She died January 10, 1931.

William was born October 13, 1868. On October 11, 1893 he married Annie West, and is a resident of La Grange, Wisconsin. He is the father of two children, Ruth and Raymond. Ruth married Fred Bromley, and is the mother of three daughters, Beth, Phyllis and Shirley; and one son, Frederick. Raymond married Myrtle Kading, and is a resident of Wauwatosa. He has one son, Robert.

Alice was born July 27, 1870. On November 22, 1893, she married Elmer Fonda and is a resident of Whitewater. She is the mother of five children, four dying in infancy; and Gladys who married Vern Ferguson on October 16, 1925. Together they are living with her parents.

Edgar was born May 20, 1872. He married Myra Dean on February 20, 1895. They are residents of Whitewater; and have four boys, Dean, Kenneth, Donald and Clarence.

Dean passed away October 4, 1921, leaving his widow with two small boys, Hubert and Gordon. Kenneth married Gail Atkinson, has two sons, Parry Robert and Dean Edgar, and is a resident of Whitewater. Donald teaches school at Galesburg, Illinois; and Clarence lives with his parents. Ed passed away January 4, 1937.

Harley was born August 14, 1874 and married Myrtle Rockwell on January 2, 1901. He is a resident of Whitewater, and the father of eight children: Ethel, Evelyn, Carroll, Marion, Irene, Hazel, Glendon and Allyn. Evelyn married Emil Marek and has one son, Robert. Carroll is in the Post Office in Chicago; Marion is a graduate nurse from Madison General Hospital, and is now in Chicago; Ethel is a school teacher; and the others reside at home.

Nellie was born August 5, 1879 and married Ervin Gilbert on January 1, 1900. She lives in Elkhorn, Wisconsin and is the mother of two sons, Harold and Ernest, both of whom are at home.

Katherine was born September 29, 1876. She married Harry Welbon, and is a resident of Hebron, Illinois and the mother of six children, Verna, Leslie, Leona, Floreice, Edna and John. Leslie passed away at the age of sixteen. Verna married Homer Woods and is a resident of Hebron. Leona married Guy Conn and is a resident of Harvard, Illinois. Floreice, Edna and John are at home with their mother.

In 1892, our father Abram Hackett, married Ella Ridge and they had one son, Sidney J. who was born March 10, 1894. He is the secretary of the great Hackett association. He, and his wife Mary Belle Pollock, reside with his mother in Whitewater.

(Second generation)

ABRAHAM HACKETT, SENIOR

by his grandniece, Belle Scholl

I knew him well, and have many happy recollections of him, his home, and his family during his advanced years. Added to what I knew of him personally, I recall many conversations by my mother and others, extolling "Uncle Abraham's" sterling qualities. I am probably the best qualified to give an account of his activities and conduct as a pioneer of the Whitewater community, as I believe no one else is available at this time.

He was born in New Jersey on September 30, 1811. He migrated with his parents, Jacob and Elizabeth Hackett, to Ontario, Canada, in 1812. They settled near Toronto.

Pioneering in Canada gave him the right training and viewpoint for the experiences that he met in a still newer country, the Wisconsin Territory. Word had reached Canada of a great new country just procured from the Indians, and opened by the Government to settlers. Abraham and his three brothers were fired with the prospects proclaimed.

Abraham, then a young man of 27 with a wife and three small children, was the first to make the venture. They took the train to Lake Michigan, crossed the lake by boat, and made their way westward 55 miles by ox team to the point where Whitewater now stands.

A Mr. Prince had preceded them, and had taken up a claim at Whitewater. But Abraham went on two miles farther south. There he found 176 acres of good soil, level and well timbered. This he secured from the Government for \$1.25 an acre and proceeded at once to build a log house and make other suitable preparations for his family.

I will not recount the hardships incident to the building up of the community as I have already enumerated them in the story of my grandparents. It is sufficient to say that "Uncle Abraham" was known far and near as a man of integrity, an indulgent parent, a good neighbor and true Christian. The farm he developed is one of the best in the community, and he did his full share of building both community and county. He later disposed of his large farm, and moved to a smaller one north of Whitewater where he lived for a number of years before moving into Whitewater where he bought a home.

After the death of his first wife, he married again and moved to Palmyra where he died on October 5, 1885. He was buried in the Oakgrove cemetery at Whitewater where both of his wives are buried.

(Second generation)

JACOB HACKETT, JR.

Jacob Hackett, Jr. was the youngest son of Jacob and Elizabeth Hackett. Born near Toronto, Canada, 1818, he grew to manhood there, and in 1839 migrated to Illinois with his brother Samuel and family. He divided his time between Illinois and Whitewater where Abraham and John had located.

In the early 1840's, he and a friend named Harris, bought a tract of unimproved land across the road from what was later to become the Pollard Farm. They began improvements. In 1846 he returned to Illinois to marry Miss Marion Vanalstine whom he had met previously. They at once took up residence on his place at Whitewater. A daughter, Lydia, was born there in 1848, and shortly afterwards, Jacob sold his interest in the farm to Mr. Harris and bought another in the near vicinity. His wife's parents, who had been born in Holland, lived with them.

When Lydia was only three years old, her mother died, and her grandmother cared for her. But in 1853, Jacob married a young widow, Mrs. Jerusha Kidd. They continued to live on the farm; and a daughter Emma, was born in 1854. After the birth of a son, George E. in 1856, the farm was sold.

They moved to Cold Springs, Wisconsin in Waukesha county, and here Herman was born on September 25, 1860; and a daughter, Etta, about 1862. Jacob farmed at Cold Springs; and had one of the first threshing outfits in that section. Later, David Kidd, his wife's son by an earlier marriage, became his partner in threshing. After about twenty years' residence at Cold Springs, both families moved to North Freedom. They brought the new threshing outfit with them, and for several years did most of the threshing for farmers in a wide section around North Freedom.

I was a boy of about 12 at that time. I well remember when "Uncle Jacob" built a good house, which still stands, on one of the main streets of North Freedom. It was built on lots he bought of Parshall Hackett, his nephew, near our home place. I can remember the teams of horses they brought with them. We kids would forfeit our dinner, if necessary, to climb on the fence to watch the threshing outfit go by. One team pulled the separator, one the horsepower, and another drew the wagon on which all accessories were loaded.

Horses were the only power used with threshing machines in those days; and when the rig was set up ready to operate, it took five or six teams, circling the power, to provide the required energy that made it go. Keeping the horses going at even and proper pace to furnish power was always "Uncle Jake's" job, and he was a past master at it. In my mind's eye, after more than 65 years, I can see him as plainly now as then. I can hear his mellow, kindly chirp and urge to which the horses seemed to respond perfectly. The other men who made up the rig outfit were David Kidd and George E., Jacob's eldest son, and half brother to Kidd. These two changed off in feeding the machine and attending the separator. There were no self-feeders in those days, and the bundle bands had to be cut by hand. What a thrill it gave me when I was first assigned to that job. I felt big standing there beside the feeder, doing such a job! When Uncle Jake retired, Joel Hackett bought a third interest in the outfit, and for years he and George and Herman operated over a wide territory.

Jacob was somewhat smaller in stature than his three brothers, and differed too, in that his hair and beard were rather sandy. I knew him better than I did any of the others, for he lived nearer us for many years, and he often stopped to chat a bit on his way up town. After I was married, he came to visit at our home to show his interest and to see what progress we were making on the new home developments. He had the characteristic fine personality so common to the Hacketts, and friendly, kindly ways made him beloved by all who knew him. He belonged to the United Brethren Church, a staunch Christian, a Republican in politics, and a champion of every good cause.

Jacob's second wife, mother of two daughters and two sons by him, was Jerusha Doolittle Kidd. She was born at Cleveland, Ohio. I remember her as an impressive personality, beloved by her family and friends she had made during the few years she lived after they moved to North Freedom. She died of a stroke,

suddenly. Her remains rest beside those of Jacob's in Oak Hill cemetery at North Freedom.

Jacob's greatest interest during his later years was in helping to look after the children of Herman and Frankie, taking great pride in their two pairs, born in succession. He lived to the ripe age of 84 years, the last of the four brothers around whom, with their posterity, most of this history is written. He died at North Freedom on May 11, 1898.

(Second generation)

DAUGHTERS OF JACOB AND ELIZABETH

While there were four daughters as well as four sons in the second generation, most of this historical story pertains to the four brothers and their families. This is because it has been impossible, to date, to secure dates and data of consequence of the families of the sisters. What information I have, I here record hoping that more may be secured in the future. Names of the four daughters in their probable order are: Elizabeth Wilson, Anna Parker, Hannah Mc Gee, and Rachael Warren, listed with their married names. The two first named remained in Canada and raised families there. The Mc Gees and Warrens were married in Canada, but followed the Hackett brothers to Wisconsin.

ELIZABETH: From the date I have, it appears Elizabeth was the eldest and was born in New Jersey, about 1809. She went to Canada with her parents in 1812; and there she grew up to marry John Wilson, a Scotchman. Four sons and three daughters were born to them. Two of the sons names were Thomas and John; the former spent some time at Whitewater when a young man. He visited at North Freedom in 1902. His son Roy accompanied him, and we liked them very much. John is reported to have lived in St. Cloud, Minnesota about 1915-20. I have a photograph of these two men and two of their sisters, Elizabeth and Elsie. The latter was said to be living in Canada in the fall of 1944, but all effort to locate her has failed. A letter addressed to her was returned. I am still hopeful of securing more data on this family. I do not have the names of the other sister and two brothers.

ANNA: While the family was enroute to Canada from New Jersey, Anna was born near Niagara Falls on October 5, 1812. She married John Parker on her sixteenth birthday. She had issue of four sons and four daughters. Their eldest was Hannah. Her sister's names are not given. Names of the four sons were: William, Joseph, Abraham and John. My contact has been with a son of Joseph, Joseph H., whose address is 52 Northland Avenue, Mt. Dennis, Ontario.

I have but little information on the two younger daughters of Jacob and Elizabeth Hackett. The elder of the two, Hannah, married John Mc Gee in Canada, and it was about 1845 they moved to Whitewater. They remained there only a few years, and then moved to North Freedom where they are said to have lived on a forty acre tract just west of the village for quite awhile. They moved on again to the Tremelau Valley, near Independence, or Pigeon Falls, Wisconsin. Their four children were: William, Lizzie whose married name was Rhodes; John and Jane. Jane married a Mc Gowan, and lived at or near Pigeon Falls. She and her daughter visited at North Freedom and attended the Reunion about 1895. William, the eldest son, married his second cousin, Delila Carpenter. Two daughters were born to them; and he had two sons from a previous marriage. There is no further record.

RACHAEL was the youngest child born to Jacob and Elizabeth Hackett. She was married in Canada to John Warren. they moved from there to North Freedom about 1852. They settled on land north of what later became the Tim Hackett farm, then owned by William and Mary Carpenter. Rachael was Mary Carpenter's aunt. It is said they moved from this locality to Lake City, Minnesota; and from there, to Bloomer, Wisconsin, where I called on the family while visiting my uncle Parshall's family in 1890. They had six children, but I have the names of only three: James, Maggie and Lambert. Rachael was a typical Hackett; tall, graceful, and had a pleasant approach. Lambert, her youngest son, was about my age. He attended a Reunion at North Freedom with his mother, one time. I hope my meager data may lead to further records.

(Third generation)

MARY HACKETT CARPENTER

Mary Hackett, first child born to Samuel and Dency Terry Hackett, was born in Ontario, Canada. She came with her parents, to Boone county in northern Illinois,

1839, and grew to maturity there. She married on June 4, 1845. Her husband, William Carpenter, was formerly of Pennsylvania. Ten children were born to this union; their first being a pair of twins, William and Mary who died in infancy. Their other children were: James A., 1848; William T., 1852; Delia E. 1854; Mary A., 1861; Densie J., 1865; and Parshall T., 1870. A son born in 1847 died in infancy. Mary Hackett Carpenter died at North Freedom, Wisconsin, January 14, 1910. William, her husband, passed on June 5, 1896.

A story of Aunt Mary's early life and recollections of Canada, is recorded elsewhere as related by her personally. She was but 12 years old when the family made the perilous trip to Illinois. Yet her pioneering experiences in Canada had matured her beyond her years, and her memory was keen.

Regarding their moving from Illinois to Wisconsin, I quote the following furnished by her for the Old Settlers' History of Sauk County: "We left Illinois on May 15, 1849, traveling by team and covered wagon and driving our stock. We crossed the Wisconsin River at Sauk City on a flat-boat. I had never seen one before, and I was very much frightened at the idea of crossing. I thought we had reached the limit, and I said, 'Turn around and go back, I've seen enough of this country.' They told me that was not half as bad as I would see, but I found that was not true. When we got to where we could see the Baraboo Valley stretching out before us, I thought it was like 'The Garden of Eden' and I didn't want to go back. My parents and brothers had made the same trip two months earlier, and we found them busy at building and preparing their new home on the Baraboo river. We remained with them until the following spring, when we secured and settled on land west of what is now North Freedom. It became part of the Tim Hackett farm later. We lived there for ten years; then sold and moved on west to Huston County, Minnesota, in Money Creek Valley where my brother George had previously settled. It was a fine country, and a pleasant place to live. We raised our family there. But in 1890, we returned to North Freedom and built a house on a lot given me by my mother."

My own memory and impressions of Aunt Mary are altogether pleasant and happy. In personality and appearance, she was a duplicate of her mother. She was always neat in appearance; well dressed even in calico; and her home was always neat and in order. She had come up the hard way, as was common in her day when modern conveniences were undreamed of. She was a kind and indulgent mother, and highly esteemed by all who knew her.

(4th generation)

CHILDREN OF MARY HACKETT CARPENTER

JAMES A. CARPENTER was born in Illinois on September 26, 1848. He came to Wisconsin with his parents as a child, and grew to maturity in Minnesota. He died at North Freedom on March 2, 1936. He married Zadie Cleveland in Minnesota on November 21, 1889. One child was born to them; a daughter, Zadie. The mother died at her birth. James married Gusta Thom on March 2, 1895. Two children were born to them; Dea and Densie.

WILLIAM T. CARPENTER was born January 22, 1852, and died _____. In 1875 he married Mary Haskins, Minnesota. One son, Albert, was born August 3, 1876.

DELILAH was born September 4, 1854, and died _____. She married William Mc Gee; and to them two daughters were born, Mamie and Densie. Both are believed to be deceased.

ANNIE was born on June 2, 1861; and died November 25, 1879. She married Mike Einhorn of Minnesota on November 25, 1878. Their son, George, was born November 25, 1879.

DENSIE CARPENTER HOWELL was born August 19, 1865 in Minnesota. She married Arthur Howell on September 24, 1884 in South Dakota where four children were born: Grace M., July 24, 1885; Mabel E., May 15, 1887; George, July 7, 1889; Charles, May 12, 1892.

The family moved from South Dakota to North Freedom and purchased a farm west of the village. Arthur Howell died there on April 21, 1896. Densie Howell has always been known as a lady of refinement, fine personality, and high ideals. She

had remained a widow, living at Elroy, Wisconsin with George and Charles until her death April 11, 1949. She was buried at North Freedom.

PARSHALL T. CARPENTER was born at North Freedom on October 2, 1870; the youngest child of Mary and William Carpenter. He married Miss Emma Wick of North Freedom. They have two daughters, Lena and Anna who are married and have families. No data; but they are believed to be living at Baraboo.

(Fifth generation)

MABLE HOWELL DOUGLAS

Mable Howell Douglas is the daughter of Densie and Arthur Howell. She was born in South Dakota on May 15, 1887. She came to Wisconsin with her parents when but a child, and got her schooling at North Freedom. She became a teacher. On February 14, 1906, she married Joseph H. Douglas. To them one son and three daughters were born; Verle E., on March 22, 1909; Joseph Howell on October 30, 1910; Joyce, on September 27, 1919; and Alice J., on June 29, 1922. All were born in Wisconsin, at La Valle or Wonewoc.

Mabel was a very attractive young lady. She possessed high standards of living, and used her talents for good music and recitation; and has always exhibited a literary trend. Her readings and vocal renditions at Hackett Reunions have been much appreciated. The exceedingly active part the Douglasses have always taken in the Reunions, deserves more than passing mention.

In June, 1930, the 49th Reunion was held at their large farm near Wonewoc. With nearly 100 persons present, accommodations and provisions were ample. This Reunion goes down in history as one of the very best. It is easy to calculate the amount of extra work and expense this meeting incurred to the Douglasses; but they have always been just that way regarding the Reunion meetings. Both Mabel and Joe have served as Vice-president for many years. Joe has, at the same time, served as business manager in arranging for the use of Unity Park at Wonewoc for our annual meetings. Joe is also treasurer of the Reunion Association as well as of the publication committee for this history. None are more popular than Joe and Mabel at these annual gatherings. No service is more greatly appreciated than theirs. "Hats off to the Douglasses!"

A brief record of their four children follows:

VERLE E., married Nove O. Eaton in 1930. Their children are Bobbie D. born in 1931; Joanne, born December 31, 1934; Shirley Lee, February 15, 1937.

The Eatons have been in business for themselves, or managing for others, for several years. They are both competent, ambitious and popular. They live in Fountain City, Wisconsin.

JOSEPH HOWELL DOUGLAS married Ada Mae Saunderson in 1936. They have three children; Joseph Harlan, born April 17, 1937; Gerald A., born January 1943; and David, 1944. Howell learned both farming and business at home from his father. He has succeeded well at both. He resides at Wonewoc.

JOYCE married Donald Hart, in 1940. They have one child, Candace Joy, born in 1943. Engaged in farming and business, they have made good. They now reside at Elroy.

ALICE J. married Jasper W. Schriever, August 18, 1944. Alice has been a very competent secretary to her father in his business. During recent war years, she was employed by the Curtis-Wright Company at Dayton, Ohio. Her husband is a Sergeant in the Marines, and was stationed at Midway Island when that base was attacked. There is one daughter, born in June 1946.

(5th and 6th generations)

GRACE MARIE HOWELL GOLISH Was born July 11, 1885. She married Herman A. Golish on June 11, 1906. Born to them were; Donald L. on April 30, 1907; he married Margaret Corcoran on 1929, and their three children are; Dorothy, Sherly and Donald.



Wm. & Mary Carpenter



Geo. & Jennie Hackett



Tim & Fanny Hackett

CLIFFORD E. GOLISH was born September 1, 1909. He served two years in World War II in Europe. A fine lad. See his record with veterans.

IRMA MARIE was born April 27, 1912 and married Cecil La Bresh, 1930. Their children are; Darline, Joyce and Patsy.

WALTER, who was born August 29, 1914, is a farmer.

ROBERT was born February 8, 1917 and married Ruth Stuernagel in 1940. Their children are; Robert J., Katherine and Mary Ann.

MELVIN was born May 26, 1927. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy in 1945.

GRACE HOWELL GOLISH came to Wisconsin with her parents when a small girl. She grew to womanhood at North Freedom. After finishing school, Grace taught in Wisconsin rural schools until she was married. She was a very competent teacher, and a girl of fine character and many talents. A devoted mother, she reared her family well. During the dearth of school teachers during War II, Grace was again asked to take up teaching duties in her home district in Minnesota. This was after an absence of 35 years from this work. In this engagement, she had the unique experience of having three of her grandchildren in her classes.

Grace has always taken an active interest in community affairs, particularly in educational matters. Her children are all greatly devoted to her, and she has always been highly esteemed by her friends and neighbors.

(Third generation)

GEORGE HACKETT, SENIOR

George, eldest son of Samuel and Dency Terry Hackett, was born in Ontario, Canada, January 30, 1829, with a twin sister, Julia. He died at North Freedom. He was ten years of age when he migrated with his parents from Canada to Illinois. Ten years later they moved again to the Baraboo Valley, Sauk County, Wisconsin. As was the custom in those days, he remained home to help his father until he became of age.

In 1851, he married Miss Polly Gile, and shortly thereafter they went to Huston County, Minnesota. There he took up a homestead in Money Creek Valley, a very fine country, and proceeded to develop his homestead into one of the best farms in that section. With high bluffs on either side, and crystal clear Money Creek running through the length of his farm, the situation was ideal. But misfortune soon overtook them when his young wife was taken ill and died. She left no issue.

In due time George married Miss Jennie Butcher, and they continued on the farm



Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

The first figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The second figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The third figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The fourth figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The fifth figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The sixth figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The seventh figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The eighth figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The ninth figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The tenth figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The eleventh figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

The twelfth figure shows a person's head and shoulders, facing forward, with a bow tie.

where they raised a family of six sons and two daughters; John, Benjamin, Fred, Carl, Roscoe, Alva, Milli and Maggie. Of these, John and Benjamin are known to be deceased, as well as the two daughters. Further data is lacking.

It was in the fall of 1889 that I visited this home, and was much impressed with the place and its surroundings. The family then lived in the large log house Uncle George had built soon after locating there. I walked over the fields and pastures with Uncle George, and noted the pride he took in giving me the history of every development. The barns were large and well arranged, but all showed signs of better days. Uncle George had battled with severe illness and his large family had taxed his declining strength. Yet, he was still full of enthusiasm and hopes. He was a devout Christian of the Baptist faith. I accompanied him to church one evening, and from neighbors there, I heard many kind words of commendation of my fine, venerable uncle.

Uncle George was very public spirited, and a courageous promoter of good causes. He was a Republican in politics until his deep convictions for the cause of temperance caused him to join the Prohibition party to which he gave uncompromising support to his last day. During the latter years of his life, he seldom missed attending the Hackett Reunion. His talks at these meetings were always inspiring and uplifting. He never failed to eulogize the Hacketts as: "Wonderful Family! Wonderful Family!" Without question, his version has been an uplift to the younger generation. He used to quote his favorite hymn, and we would sometimes sing it, "When I Read My Title Clear...."

After the death of his second wife, Jennie, he came back to North Freedom to spend his last days. He bought a house and lot on what had been his father's property. His daughter Maggie was his housekeeper. He died in _____. His remains were taken back to Money Creek, Minnesota where he was laid to rest beside his two wives. I have visited the spot.

(Third generation)

JULIA HACKETT GRAY

Julia Hackett, a twin, was born in Canada January 30, 1829. She was married on March 15, 1853 to Ogden Gray, and died at North Freedom _____. They had no children. Ogden, a veteran of the Civil war died only a few years after the close of that conflict. My memory of him is indefinite. Aunt Julia lived in North Freedom from the time of my earliest recollection and I had many pleasant conversations with her. From her, more than from any of the others, I learned of the family's experiences in Canada.

The raw, new country had few improvements, and Indians aplenty. She was ten years old when they left Canada. She told me of the long, rough roads they had to travel to school; of their many frights from the Indians, although they were never harmed by them. She remembered well the large, double log house which accommodated both her father's and grandfather's families while the latter lived. She remembered her grandparents well, more particularly her grandmother Elizabeth Moore Hackett, and adored her for her refinement and gentle ways.

She remembered a grist-mill, near their home, which was later turned into a distillery to the deep regret and embarrassment of the family. It was at least partly the cause of the family's moving out of Canada. Aunt Mary Carpenter and Uncle George also told me of this unhappy situation.

Aunt Julia also remembered their trip from Canada to Illinois, confirming Uncle Tim's story which is recorded with his history. In a story written in her own words will be found an account of her recollections of the ten years spent in Illinois, and of her early experiences in Wisconsin.

Aunt Julia was a fine character, spending her declining years in her own modest home in North Freedom. It was on a lot deeded her by her mother right near her home. She was an active member of the Methodist church, and an ardent supporter of the Women's Relief Corps organization. She was highly respected by all.

TIMOTHY HACKETT

Born in Ontario, Canada, March 26, 1831, Timothy came to Illinois with his parents at the age of eight; continuing on to Sauk County, Wisconsin in the spring

of 1849. He died at North Freedom on November 7, 1917, and is buried at Oak Hill cemetery there.

Timothy married Fannie Moulton, Adama County, Wisconsin in 1859. She was born in New York state October 2, 1839; and died at North Freedom April 30, 1907. Two sons were born to them; Wesley Orange, on October 7, 1860; and Major N. B., on October 18, 1868.

The motto they adopted for their life partnership was: "Never go faster than the cover will reach" and they certainly lived up to it. Of the several brothers of the big family, Uncle Tim was unquestionably the best financier and manager of his enterprises. As was the custom in those days, he remained at home, helping to develop and improve the family homestead on the Baraboo until he was twenty one years old; his compensation being his frugal living, and personal requirements. The sum of his capital in starting out for himself was, in his own words, "My two willing hands, and an ambition to make them produce." He did so effectively.

During my early manhood, I used to work for Uncle Tim at frequent intervals, on his big farm, and thereby came to know him well. He was a man of fine, robust physique, strong personality and pleasing manner. However, he was always very reserved, had few words, and avoided publicity or praise. His every characteristic inspired confidence, and his manner of dealing with his fellow man was always honorable. He wanted what belonged to him, but was just as insistent that the same be accorded the other fellow.

To me, he talked freely of his early experiences which dated back to his early boyhood in Canada. He remembered the large, double log house in which he was born in Chinoque Township, County of York, Upper Canada. This is not far from Hamilton. The home was the original home of his grandfather, Jacob Hackett; later owned by his father. He remembered a mill, blacksmith shop and a small settlement near by; the school he attended, and primitive conditions of the roads. He remembered hardships endured on the trip to Illinois when he was only eight; and the roads like unimproved trails with few bridges. Most streams had to be forded. He particularly recalled their experiences in fording the Rock River at Rockford, Illinois which had no bridge then. The high water threatened to carry teams, wagons and all possessions down stream. They nearly all got wet, but made it without loss. There were eight children and the youngest was less than two months old. That was aunt Dency Gray, as we knew her. They settled in northern Illinois at what is now known as Poplar Grove, about twenty five miles northeast of Rockford. They remained there ten years, before moving north to Wisconsin.

The generation of the family which I represent, and the one following, who were born and brought up at North Freedom, clearly remember what a fine estate the "Tim Hackett Farm" became. It was one of the best in the Baraboo Valley. It represented a great achievement by gigantic effort without immediate corresponding compensation, for there was very limited market for the products of the forest at that time. His first purchase was an eighty acre tract of heavily timbered land of hard and soft wood. It included what many still living remember as a fine "sugar bush." To make land available for farming, heavy timber had to be cut, rolled up in log heaps, and burned, as had been done on the original "Hackett Homestead" which was about the same distance from "Hackett's Corners" as his was west of it.

He was 28 years old when he bought his first 80 acres in 1859. It was still 12 years before the railroad was to reach North Freedom which provided shipping facilities, and hence better market for farm and forest products.

In "Outline Sketches of Sauk County Old Settlers" by William H. Canfield, one finds sketches of all the Samuel Hackett Family. In this book, I found the following, by Timothy: "When I was a young man, we drew wheat and other products to Chicago, 165 miles, and to Milwaukee, 125 miles, with an ox team; and freighted merchandise back to Baraboo." That was really pioneering. When compared with our present day facilities, we wonder in amazement at what has been accomplished within less than a century; and wonder, too, what may transpire in a like time in the future.

It was ten years from the time the Hacketts came to Sauk County that Uncle Tim began the development of his farm. By then, a sawing mill had arrived so their new home was a frame house rather than log. While the original house was not very large, it was well constructed. Later additions made it ample to serve all needs throughout their lives. The large trees which shaded the front yard, and the

garden of flowers and vegetables stretching to the front and east, illustrated comfort, thrift and plenty.

Uncle Tim was both sturdy and ambitious in his make-up, and his efforts knew no limits. The common motive power of that time was the ox, and Aunt Fannie was told me how he often used to work long after midnight breaking young steers to the yoke not only for his own use, but to sell to others as well. His practice of thrift and his close application to his own business conveyed, to those not well acquainted with him, the impression of a disposition to greed and penury. But I have personal knowledge of many acts of his helpfulness to others without the desire for publicity or commendation.

While interested in all kinds of livestock, and always having several hundred sheep on his farm, his first love went to horses. He owned several good ones, in his day, including a noted "Cleveland Bay" stallion named "Royal George." This horse was of the coach type, but had plenty of speed. In training him on a track which he laid out and prepared on his own farm, it was easy to note that he got more out of his efforts than the satisfaction of wealth accumulated.

After he had his farm well developed and improved, he purchased a lot from his mother, on what is now the northeast corner of the main intersection in the village of North Freedom. On it, he built a large frame store building with dwelling attached, and a hall overhead. It was in this hall that the Hackett Reunion was organized and held annually on Thanksgiving Day for many years. In this building, Tim conducted a general store business for years, having rented out the farm meanwhile. After several years' experience in a business with which he was not familiar, he became restless and decided to move back to the farm where they remained until after Aunt Fanny's death. He then purchased a small house in North Freedom, formerly owned by his sister, Dency Gray; and there he lived until his death at the age of 86.

Timothy was neither socially nor religiously inclined, although Aunt Fanny has told me that in their earlier years they often attended dances in the vicinity. Uncle Tim generally contributed to the music with his violin, and was a fine player. I have been told he had joined the Baptist church earlier, although this has not been confirmed. But his sense of justice and square dealing was religiously imposed. I know, too, that in his later years, he often took time for fishing trips, attending fairs, and things of wider interest.

In dwelling at great length on his business management and financial success I do not wish to convey the impression that any of his brothers lacked in the practice of frugality, or the careful use of finances. In analyzing possible reasons for his greater financial success, I make these deductions: He was 28 years old when he married, while his brothers had married and assumed responsibilities of families at twenty or twenty one. Timothy had doubtless accumulated sufficient funds to pay for his original land purchase before he married. He had only two sons, and his wife was sturdy, like himself, and a real help-mate. He was the only one of the brothers, excepting Frank, who had not spent years of valuable time seeking an elusive fortune in the west. There was no possibility of Frank's accumulating a reserve while serving his country in the Civil War, recovering from the effects of it, and providing for a family of 12 children. I mention this to justify my commendation of Tim's financial success. I would have to refuse to estimate the comparative value of each brother's contribution to the welfare and uplift of humanity, and the amount of pleasure and satisfaction accruing to each, resulting from their chosen course.

There is one other deduction I want to make; the sum total of the successes of the Samuel Hackett family is a tribute to his good judgement in his movements, and selection of the Baraboo Valley as desirable location for rearing his family; and to his vision of opportunity and expansion. The same tribute can be made to his brothers, John, Abraham and Jacob, who settled at Whitewater, Wisconsin in desirable country. There, too, large families have grown up to call "blessed" these sturdy pioneers to whom we all owe so much.

(Fourth Generation)

WESLEY O. HACKETT

Wesley Orange Hackett, son of Timothy and Fanny Moulton Hackett, was born at North Freedom on October 7, 1860. He married Inez Burt of the same place in 1886.

The following information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source has provided information that is consistent with the information obtained from other sources. The information is being provided to you for your information only and should not be disseminated to other personnel.

The information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source has provided information that is consistent with the information obtained from other sources. The information is being provided to you for your information only and should not be disseminated to other personnel.

The information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source has provided information that is consistent with the information obtained from other sources. The information is being provided to you for your information only and should not be disseminated to other personnel.

The information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source has provided information that is consistent with the information obtained from other sources. The information is being provided to you for your information only and should not be disseminated to other personnel.

The information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source has provided information that is consistent with the information obtained from other sources. The information is being provided to you for your information only and should not be disseminated to other personnel.

The information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source has provided information that is consistent with the information obtained from other sources. The information is being provided to you for your information only and should not be disseminated to other personnel.

(S) (U)

CONFIDENTIAL - This document contains information that is exempt from public release under the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.

The following information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source has provided information that is consistent with the information obtained from other sources. The information is being provided to you for your information only and should not be disseminated to other personnel.

To them three daughters were born: Vera Inez, b. 1888; d. 1889; Irene Estelle, b. _____; Thecla Fay, b. _____.

Wesley was familiarly known as "W.O." to his many friends. With a fine personality, many talents and congenial ways, he launched out on his own with more than ordinary promise. At the time of his marriage, he was already associated with his father in the general mercantile business at North Freedom, which he took over at that time. But in so small a town, it appeared progress would be slow. To satisfy his ambition, he soon disposed of that business, and accepted an attractive position offered him by a wholesale house. Acting as traveling salesman, he moved his family to Winona, Minnesota which was the headquarters for the territory he was to cover.

After a number of years at this work, he became dissatisfied with having to be away from home continually. He quit his work, and returned to North Freedom where he purchased a small acreage adjoining his father's farm. Here, he developed a real home. The land was fertile and had a fine orchard and other fruits. There was a large, old-fashioned house with a great fireplace in the huge dining room which became the scene of many jolly good times for the young people of the community. Later their two daughters and their friends continued this spirit of open-house. With his wife, Inez, as a gracious hostess and indulgent mother, this home will long be remembered for its hospitality and entertainment.

Wesley was always a great lover of music and was, himself, very proficient on the violin. Inez, who loved music, had great talent as an accomplished pianist. Their renditions were eagerly sought for parties, dances and local entertainment. As their popularity broadened, a local orchestra was formed. It included Major, his brother on the bass viol. This organization developed rapidly inasmuch as "Hackett's Hall" was the only place in the community large enough to accommodate sizable dance crowds, and this orchestra could always be depended upon. I believe it was with the idea of developing a real orchestra that "W.O." had come back to North Freedom, and the results of such development will be told later.

It was a terrific shock to his family and friends when it became known he was afflicted with an incurable ailment at the age of only 45. He died July 21, 1909, at the home he had conceived and developed with so much care and affection.

Inez Burt Hackett came from one of the best families in the community. Her family had formerly come from Ohio. She was a lady of charm and accomplishment in literature and music, and particularly as a home-maker. Since Wesley's death, she has devoted her life to her daughters and to social and religious activities. She has resided at Los Angeles, California for many years, but recently moved with her daughters to Grant's Pass in Oregon. The daughters and their families will be found listed elsewhere.

(Fifth Generation)

CHILDREN OF WESLEY O. AND INEZ HACKETT (including the 6th generation)

Irene Estelle was born _____. She developed into a fine personality with great love for the outdoors, at the family home near North Freedom. She was popular and much loved. She has resided in California for many years. During World War II, she was employed in defense work at the famous Lockheed Plant. She recently purchased fruit land in Oregon which she and her mother are developing. She was early married to Charles Warren in Wisconsin, and to them one daughter, Rose Mary, was born on June 17, 1901. Rose Mary married a Mr. Hawthorne at Los Angeles on June 12, 1933. Their children are Edna Estelle, born in 1935; and Lelia Fay, born on September 1, 1937. They live in California.

Thecla Fay was born at North Freedom _____. She attended the school there and became a "reader" and entertainer of considerable reputation. Her renditions were always popular at Hackett Reunions which the family never missed while in Wisconsin. During her residence in California, her talents have also been made use of in her association with social and church groups, and in Women's Clubs. She married Neal Reville _____ and they have one son, Donald Neal, born July 31, 1927. Don is a fine young man, very capable and has had valuable training at Idaho State University in preparation for service to his country. He had not been placed in active service when the war closed.

1. The purpose of this document is to provide information regarding the activities of the [redacted] and the [redacted] in the [redacted] area. This information is being provided to you for your information only and is not to be distributed outside of your organization.

2. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area.

3. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area.

4. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area.

5. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area.

(S)

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY INFORMATION
EXCLUDED FROM AUTOMATIC DOWNGRADING AND DECLASSIFICATION

6. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area.

7. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area. The [redacted] has been identified as a [redacted] and is currently active in the [redacted] area.

MAJOR N. B. HACKETT AND FAMILY

Major, son of Timothy and Fannie Hackett, was born at North Freedom, Wisconsin on October 18, 1868. His early boyhood was spent on the farm, and later in the village when Uncle Tim had quit the farm for a while to engage in the mercantile business. This was during most of the years of Major's schooling. The only school in the community at that time was a mile south of "Hackett's Corners." I recall how he was regarded with considerable envy by the rest of us kids because he could have things which not many others could. He could dress a bit better, and although he never took advantage of that situation, it did cut considerable figure with the girls, and that was where the "shoe pinched."

In 1892, Major married Miss Anna Luckensmeier of Ableman, a neighboring town; and she was not a stranger to the family. She was both charming and practical, and quickly won the hearts of us all. To them were born, Zilda, on January 15, 1893; Lyle Burton, on September 19, 1894; Durlin Bates, on September 29, 1896; and Mona on July 26, 1902.

During the few years this couple were permitted to begin the journey they had planned to travel together to its end, their single-purposed ambition was to give their fine children the best possible status with which to meet life on their own. But the irony of fate stepped in to cut all plans when the cruel hands of death took the young wife and mother in September, 1906.

With the deep love and untiring service of "Aunt Minnie," Anna's sister, duties and obligations previously laid down moved on as planned. These devoted children have ever bestowed on their aunt a goodly portion of love they'd have given their mother. All through the years, Aunt Minnie has been regarded as a member of the Hackett fraternity, as though born into it. Her interest in the family has ever been keen; and her attendance at annual Reunions is regular.

While Anna lived, she and Major were on his father's big farm in a separate house provided for them; or on their own adjoining farm. Most of the time they worked in cooperation with his father. For a few years he relinquished his cooperation at the farm while engaged with his brother Wesley in Hackett's Orchestra, and in commercial sales work. But his interest and anchor were ever at the farm until his mother's passing, and his father's failing health made a sale of the farm advisable.

In 1910, Major married Mrs. Bertha Aspinwall who had also been bereft of her former mate. She had a son of her own, and brought a mother's love to this union. Her devotion and service to the combined family has proved her fully worthy of the love, trust and confidence bestowed upon her. The Hackett fraternity, as a whole, acclaim her with pride and highest esteem. As a mother, she has been affectionate and understanding. As a wife, a true help-mate.

Personally, there are none of my cousins with whom I have been so long and closely associated as with Major. There is less than a year's difference in our ages. We were not only playmates and school mates together, but enjoyed business relations together for years. Since our families have grown up together, we've had that community of interests so dear to Hacketts, and demonstrated by practice throughout their history. Had Major been born a farmer, he would doubtless be the owner of the big farm so early acquired by his father. But his musical talent and adaptability for meeting people directed his tendencies elsewhere. The orchestra and salesmanship allowed expression of his fine voice and superb personality. He endeared himself to many; and his devotion to the Hackett Reunion and family has been of untold value to the fraternity.

(Fifth Generation)

CHILDREN OF MAJOR AND ANNA HACKETT

ZILDA HACKETT WHITE, daughter of Major and Anna Hackett, was born at North Freedom, January 15, 1893. On February 4, 1911, she was united in marriage to J. Lewis White, and to this union two sons and one daughter were born: Lyle Lewis, Byron Timothy, and Joyce Anna.

Zilda and Lewis took up the active duties of farming in partnership with her grandfather on his farm for a few years. But they decided to accept an opportunity offered to publish a country newspaper, as Lewis was brought up in the printing business. They have followed this vocation.

Zilda has been an outstanding character from childhood. Her pleasing personality and genial ways have made her an honored and highly respected leader in the circles in which she has moved. Within the Hackett circle and Reunion activities, she has taken important parts both in entertainment and officially, having served as secretary for several years. She has served on important committees, and is now chairman of the publication committee of this history. For several years they resided at Baraboo where they owned and operated the Sauk County Publishing Company. They won state-wide recognition in this work. Having recently disposed of their interests at Baraboo, they now live in Milwaukee where they are engaged in similar work.

LYSLE BURTON HACKETT, son of Major and Anna Hackett, was born September 19, 1894. On January 5, 1920 he married Eloise Winona Wade at Duluth, Minnesota. To them were born two daughters, Mary Eloise and Alice Lorene.

Lysle inherited much of the personality of his father, being possessed of genial ways and musical talent. He was popular among his many friends. Being nearly the same age as our son Harold, and accomplished on the violin while Harold played the piano well, Lysle spent much time at our home practising, much to our delight. The boys' services were much in demand for local entertainment. They presented the true Hackett form, and were popular.

After finishing high school at Stevens Point, where his father owned the motion picture theatre, Lysle went to Lawrence College at Appleton. After that, he went back to the farm to cooperate with his grandfather for awhile. After his marriage, he located at Duluth and conducted a service garage for several years. Later, he became a salesman at Fargo, North Dakota. During World War I, he served his country in Europe directing the band of the 20th Engineers.

ELOISE WADE HACKETT deserves more than passing comment not only for her fine personality, and her part in Lysle's life and that of his family; but also for her achievement as a writer of verse and other literary work.

CHILDREN OF LYSLE AND ELOISE HACKETT

Mary Eloise was born July 19, 1923 and married to Louis Frederick Gruchalla on August 11, 1945. Frederick Louis Gruchalla was born to them on July 11, 1946.

Alice Lorene was born December 27, 1925, and married to Clyde C. Nolan, Jr. on June 22, 1945.

DURLIN, second son of Major and Anna Hackett, was born at North Freedom, Wisconsin on September 29, 1896. After high school, he attended Lawrence College at Appleton, Wisconsin for two years. He enlisted to serve his country in World War I. He was a natural musician, specializing on the trumpet, and worked his way through college. At Great Lakes Naval Training Station he played in the famous Sousa Band. But he was stricken with spinal meningitis, and spent most of the war years in hospitals. Later, he went to Stanford University, and graduated in 1923. Prior to attending Stanford, he married Agatha Rick at Augusta, Wisconsin. They have no children. Durlin entered the automobile sales business at Palo Alto, California; and later moved to Tucson, Arizona where he still lives.

MONA, youngest child of Major and Anna, was born at North Freedom on July 26, 1902. After attaining maturity, she went to California. She married _____ and lives at Soledad. She has a son, Major; and daughter, Minnabelle. Both are fine musicians and entertainers. Major served his country in the late war.

(Third generation)

JOHN HACKETT

Son of Samuel and Dency Hackett, he was born in Ontario, Canada, and was six



John & Mary
Hackett

years of age when he left there with his parents for Illinois, then on to Wisconsin 10 years later. He died at North Freedom 1914. He was twice married; to Alvira Carr in 1854 and to them two daughters were born: Marilla An, and Sarah Elizabeth. Tragedy overtook them when the young wife was burned to death in 1859. In 1862 he married Mary Martin, born in Germany, and to them three children were born, Emma L., William Henry, and Mamie D., all born at North Freedom.

John Hackett owned 80 acres along the west side of the main north and south street of North Freedom extending from the intersection which was formerly known as Hackett's Corners to one half mile south. It was just north of the river, along that street, then a crude road, that he built the first house erected in North Freedom. The children grew to maturity at this location and it was here that John prospered through hop raising, until the bottom fell out, then he built a hotel and livery stable, on the same property, but at the corner of the main intersection of North Freedom, which they conducted for many years. He being of genial nature and a most friendly man, and Aunt Mary being a superb cook, made them ideally suited to this business and they succeeded well.

It was during this time, that John purchased a large tract of timberland on the Baraboo bluff south of North Freedom, which he had cut and marketed to good advantage. He contributed to the development of the community. Later they sold the hotel property to their daughter and husband, the Coughrans. They built a large house on their property south of the river, in what was then their "sugar bush", the same having been cleared of undergrowth to make a beautiful grove. It is where the Old Settlers Ass'n. of Sauk County held their annual picnics for many years. They called this new location Highland Park a name well suited to it as it was on high ground, overlooking the village and surrounding country.

It was here too, that on one morning in early spring, when we were on our way to our sugar bush, that Uncle John was also attending to his bush. I remember him so well; in high rubber boots and with a pail on each arm he was walking down a path alongside the road and this is what he was singing: "What is the odds as long as you're happy, as long as you're happy, happy as a clam." It was evident that he was just that happy and no one saying or comment could more correctly portray the character of the man. It was on this same property that his son, Wm. H. built a home later and they lived there side by side for a time; then John built a house on lots he owned right near the center of the village where they enjoyed years in retirement and from which both he and his wife passed to their reward within a few months of each other in 1914.

1638610

Now let us turn back to incidents and experiences in John Hackett's early life which are most interesting. He was in his 16th year when the family came to the Baraboo Valley to carve a new home out of the wilderness. He was strong, active and capable of doing a man's work and he did it in helping to build the new home, clear the fields and put them into tillage. I used to take delight in listening to him tell of these experiences, and he also told of the trips he had made with his father, to Milwaukee and to Chicago, by team, to sell their products and to secure necessities for the family. These trips were tedious and beset with many hazards, but necessary. The first years they threshed their grain with flails as they had but little and threshing outfits were not available until later. In telling me of the first time they did have a machine come to do their threshing he said the old thresher walked all around the premises and returning said to him: "Pretty good situation, Hackett, pretty good situation." "Yes, we think so," Uncle John said, then the old fellow remarked, "God knows it's bad enough." And so it was, the prospects were very promising, the present situation, not so good.

A marked Hackett characteristic has always been: prompt and quick decision and action. This is aptly demonstrated in the following, copied from John's own story contained in "Old Settlers History of Sauk County." "On the morning I was twenty one years of age, when I came downstairs I was met by father who said to me, "Good morning Mr. Hackett!- You are twenty one today and your own man. You had better start out for yourself and see what you can do for John Hackett. There are other boys here at home to do the work." I tied up an extra hickory shirt in a red handkerchief and with a 3¢ piece in my pocket (my earthly possession) started out towards Baraboo. When I got to where Mr. Christie lived, about three miles from home, he saw me and came out to meet me. He wanted to know where I was going and I told him I was looking for work as I was twenty one that day. He said, 'You better stop here. I will give you a job.' I worked for him several months and he paid me well. I got married that fall."

Quoting again from the history:- "In 1860, after the death of my wife, I conceived the idea of making my fortune in digging gold in Colorado, and with my brother Joel and sister Hannah, we started out with ox teams. Joining many other such wagons, we were called the 'blue train.' Near the Platte river, one morning I thought I would try to get an antelope for a change of meat. Three of us started and after a short time the others returned to camp and I found I was alone. I not being used to antelope hunting kept traveling on and I began to see signs of buffalo. I knew the buffalo country was about 15 miles from Willow Island where we had started from that morning, and I realized in a moment that I was lost and I was scared. I was also tired and hungry. Indians and wolves were aplenty and I had no guide but the sun. I ran as fast as I could and finally, just at sun down I came out to a stage station near the river and found I was twenty five miles from where I started in the morning. Next morning I started on the back track to find my train and found them camped about ten miles away, ready to start search for my body as they did not expect to find me alive. There was much rejoicing when I walked into camp. We reached our destination after being on the road two and one half months. I worked at mining and other things for two years, nine months of which time I never slept under a roof, but did not acquire the fortune I went after."

"At the end of two years we were ready and glad to return to Wisconsin. I had left my two small children with my parents and I was anxious to see them again. On our return trip we had horses for our teams and in Nebraska we ran into a blizzard while we camped. Our horses stampeded and we were left twenty four hours without heat or food. It was not a very pleasant trip but we had seen a lot of country and had much valuable experience."

It will be interesting to later generations, who read this story, to know the details of these experiences by their forebears, in the part they played in the early settlement and development of this great country.

(Fourth generation)

CHILDREN OF JOHN HACKETT

MARILLA HACKETT RICE, daughter of John and Alvira Carr Hackett was born at North Freedom, 1856 and died 1898. She was married to David Rice about 1873 and to them three children were born; Luella, 1874, Ida, 1876 and Guy, about 1882. They lived at North Freedom for many years, then moved to Delton where both passed away. Both of the daughters became school teachers, but Luella died at age 20. Ida married and may be still living but all trace of her and her brother Guy has been lost. They were a fine family and in the early days of the Reunion were regular attendants.

EMMA HACKETT COUGHRAN, eldest child of John and Mary Martin Hackett was born at North Freedom December 12, 1863. She is living in California. (1946). She married Arthur Coughran in 1886. To them three sons were born: Chester, October 26, 1887; Clinton, 1889 and Clyde, May 8, 1891. Chester, an unusually fine boy died at the age of twelve, February 8, 1899. Clinton died in California at the age of seventeen from an accident. Clyde lived but a few months. Emma possessed exceptional personality and was very good looking. The Coughrans succeeded her parents in the hotel at North Freedom which they operated very successfully for several years, but finally sold it and went to California where Arthur died. Emma died in Los Angeles, California in 1947.

MAMIE HACKETT, daughter of John and Mary Hackett was one of the loveliest personalities I have ever known. She was born in 1869 and died August 31, 1891. Her years were too few to have made much history yet the influence of her short life has been far reaching. She was ambitious and was teaching school at the time a malignant disease fastened itself on her. She was a devoted Christian and her last illness brought out her sterling character and the solace she got from Christian living. We were great pals and closely associated.

SARAH ELIZABETH HACKETT LOOMIS, daughter of John Hackett, (3rd Generation) "Lib" as she was known to the family, was born at North Freedom, July 6, 1858. On February 18, 1877 she married George William Loomis, at North Freedom. Her death occurred June 20, 1933 at LaCrosse, Wis., and that of her husband in 1935. Both are buried at North Freedom. Eight children were born to this union as follows:

Edward A., February 19, 1878	John J. B., July 30, 1886
Ernest LeRoy, May 22, 1879	Arlie Gertrude, July 10, 1888
Mamie Alvira, August 30, 1881	Veda Edna, September 4, 1890
Bertha, November 14, 1883	Wm. Vincent, b. 1893, d. 1894

Besides their children there are thirty six grandchildren and seventy eight great grandchildren.

For several years the family resided at North Freedom, then moved to South Dakota about 1885, the time of the big migration to that newly opened country. After about ten years residence there, being disappointed and discouraged they returned to Wisconsin, and settled at LaCrosse where their children grew to maturity and most of them have remained, raising large families.

From posterity later listed it will be noted that this is probably the most prolific branch of the Hackett family at this time. It can be said of the entire family that they have followed industrious, honorable lives and have been valuable assets for progress in their communities. The mother, Sarah Elizabeth was a lady of refinement, a kind and indulgent mother, a good neighbor and beloved by all who knew her. The father, too, was a kindly man of many talents and industrious. Both parents had known the hardships of pioneer life and had done their share in the development of communities where they had lived.

EXTENDING TO FIFTH AND SIXTH GENERATION FAMILY OF ELIZABETH HACKETT LOOMIS.

Edward A. I., b. February 19, 1878. Many years engaged in railroading. Handicapped with only one arm. Now in Hammond, Indiana.

Ernest, b. May 22, 1879, m. Sept. 1, 1914 to Emma Short. Children, Leroy and Leona.

Mamie E. Loomis Rose, b. August 30, 1881; m. D. W. Rose. Children:- Vera and Vincent, twins, (Vera m. Wm. Olson) Daniel Webster, Jr., Laura Pearl, (m. Oscar Green) Aileen Stella, (m. Lucerne Swan) William Harold, Clyde Ramond, Fay and Fern, twins, (Fay m. Harold Robison) Le Roy Edward, Ella Mae, (m. Joe Wakeen) Florence, Dorothy Mae, (m. B. J. Hageman) Thomas Wayne, Betty Jane, (m. Elton Simpson).

It will be noted that there are fifteen children born to Mamie L. Rose which equals the record of her Great-Grandmother, Dency Terry Hackett. Thomas, above listed, lost both his feet by a land mine explosion in Europe during World War II. Further comment elsewhere. Mamie died January 13, 1947.

Bertha Loomis Nichols, b. November 14, 1883; m. O. H. Nichols 1905. Children: Alice, (m. Walter Moser-c.h.) Elizabeth, (m. Anthony E. Wengyn, December 22, 1946 at Wassau, Wisconsin) Helen, (m. Adrian Ross) Inez, (m. Neider) Daisy, (m. Frank Ames) Alfred, George, Doris, (m. Edward Pederson) Ernest, Norma, Samuel.

John J. B. Loomis, b. 1886; m. Mary Potter 1910. Children: William, served in Marines - Recent World War, Benjimen, served in South Pacific, Douglas, served in General Patton's Army in Europe. Re-married, 19__ to Edwardina Guared. Children: John and Richard.

After several years residence in LaCrosse John has followed farming for the past decade; near LaCresent, Minn.

ARLEY GERTRUDE, b. July 10, 1888, m. W. Rinartz who died 19__. Children: Edna, (m. W. Delaney) Verona, (m. W. Delaney) William (m.) Marilla (m. Edward Havek). Re-married Richard O. Dasse, 1923. Children: one daughter, Arlene Elsie, (m. Paul Bettsinger) Children: Elizabeth Jan, November 29, 1947 and Robert Paul, February 22, 1949.

Grandchildren of Bertha Loomis Nichols reported at the 1949 Reunion: Kenneth Ames, b. August 25, 1947, Sherry Marie Ames, b. July 28, 1948, Steven Michael Pederson, b. January 29, 1947, Kenneth Charles Marcuse, b. June 1, 1949, Kenneth Rickey Gauthé, October 22, 1947, John Walter Moser, b. June 25, 1949, Marvin Severson, b. April 11, 1949, Erige Alyn Nichols, b. April 22, 1949.

Veda Edna, m. Otto Shroeder, September 4, 1914. Children: Donald Otto, and Robert Edwin.

In 1949 they sold their lovely home in LaCrosse and moved to Bangor, Wisconsin where they went in business. Robert is still in the Army with his wife and two children in Japan.

Tom Rose, grandson of Libbie Loomis lost both legs in World War II. Granddaughter, Betty Bettsinger is the Secretary of the Reunion. Helen Ross the Program Promoter.

(Fourth generation)

WILLIAM HENRY HACKETT

William H. Hackett was born May 5, 1865, at North Freedom, son of John and Mary Martin Hackett. In 1888 he married Clara Barnhart, and to them four children were born: Courtland Bert, November 3, 1888; Mamie Diantha, June 31, 1891; Wm. Lynn, September 22, 1898; Jessie Fern, March 7, 1907.

Both Will and Clara were born at or near North Freedom and grew to maturity in that community. They were always active and popular and had many friends. Clara acquired the education required for teaching and taught several terms before their marriage. Will had little inclination for schooling, but liked farming and was particularly interested in horses. This was at a time when there was much teaming work to be done at North Freedom and vicinity and Will developed into an expert teamster, to which there is more art and science than is commonly believed.

His father owned a large acreage of timberland on the bluff, south of North Freedom, and Will had an active part in clearing this off. Later he was employed, with his team, with a threshing rig for several falls, then went to farming for himself. In 1920, he decided to go to California, as his sister Emma had located there. He soon found a good position with a large tire manufacturing company and remained in their employ until he became disabled for the work and retired.

Will was a great booster for California but after nearly twenty years residence there before coming back for a visit at his old home town, his enthusiasm knew no bounds over the beauty and worth of his native state, often remarking that he had not remembered that it was so fine. Clara died in California in _____, and since Will has lived with Jessie, his youngest daughter, and with her and her husband, they moved to Oregon in 1944, where they now reside. Will is now past 80 years.

Children of Wm. H. and Clara Hackett (5th & 6th generation); Courtland, b 1887, Mamie Diantha, b. 1891, d. November 30, 1939 - m. H. G. Cottrell _____, one Daughter Diane, (Peggy), William Lynn, b. September 22, 1898, Lived in California. Deceased. Jessie Fern, b. March 7, 1907, Resides at Grant's Pass, Oregon, with her second husband _____. She has one son, Robert, by former husband. Served his country in World War II, as aerial photographer in the Pacific.

Of the Sixth Generation grandchildren of Will and Clara I have only the following, children of Courtland, residing at Davenport, Iowa. Lucile, d. age two years, Chester, Dale, Kenneth, Peggy, Emerson and Robert. Birth dates or other data not given.

(Third generation)

JOEL HACKETT

Joel, fourth son born to Samuel and Dency Hackett was born in Canada, was but four years of age when he came, with his parents to Illinois. He died at North Freedom, January 23, 1917. On December 28, 1861, he married Emily Cass and to them five children were born: Lydia, Olive, Ellie, Robert and Belle.

Before their marriage, Joel had secured land in Minnesota, near his brother George's farm and they moved to it the year after marriage. It was a new country but a beautiful location just at the edge of Money Creek valley and contained both valley and hillside land. I have seen the place. All their children but Belle were born on this place. About 1876, after the death of his father, Joel came back to Wisconsin, bought the original Hackett homestead, which he farmed for several years before dividing and selling it, but still residing at North Freedom. A few years before his death he bought a forty acre farm in the town of Baraboo, four miles from North Freedom, where he lived until he passed from this life.

Joel was a boy of fourteen when the family moved from Illinois to Wisconsin and he remembered many things about their home in Illinois. Where they had set-

tled in Boone County, just south of the Wisconsin state line the country was what was known as "burr oak openings," the timber being scattered and the soil rather light, easy to clear for tillage, but not very productive. This did not suit his father, Samuel, and led to his decision to investigate the newly opened section known as the Baraboo Valley in Wisconsin, subsequently moving to that section. Joel was able to do a man's work at fourteen and did his full part in helping to develop the Homestead.

Often, in later years, when I helped him at farming on this same land he would pause to recount incidents which happened in those early days, particularly of going out and in a few hours come in with a deer or two. Once he got five within a few minutes. They also found small game aplenty and their experience at "sugar making," with the crudest kind of equipment was most interesting to hear about. Maple sugar was a very important factor in supplying the needs of the family in those early days, a necessity, rather than a luxury. It was during the time he owned the old home that the original buildings were razed as they had become useless after serving their purpose for about forty years. Joel was the tallest of the brothers and had a fine personality. Of genial nature he was usually joking and pleasant. He was very devoted to his family. A sincere Christian he was affiliated with the Methodist church. He was also strong for temperance and supported the Prohibition party.

In the spring of 1859, in company with his brother John and sister Hannah, he went to Colorado, then on to New Mexico, in search of gold, which was being discovered in those sections. Not finding what he was looking for, he filed on a claim on Cherry Creek, Colorado and tried farming. Altho he was able to sell wild hay at \$100. per ton after hauling it 100 miles to Denver, he found the net profit very small. Hunting was very good in Colorado, especially for antelope. In his own story of his experiences at hunting he tells of killing four antelope at one shot with his muzzle-loading shot gun, with buck shot. This sounds pretty big but Uncle Joel's word was 100% good.

He remained in the west for more than two years, then becoming disillusioned of what fortunes the west held for him, he returned to Wisconsin, got married and went to live on his Minnesota land where he knew he could make a comfortable home for a family and acquire competency without the hazards and inconveniences of the far west. His judgment proved to be sound. His wife, "Aunt Emily" was an efficient and willing help-mate, of good family and high ideals. She was a devoted mother and her children honored her. She was held in high esteem by all who knew her. She lived until she was ninety. Both are buried at North Freedom.

(Fourth generation)

CHILDREN OF JOEL AND EMILY HACKETT

Lydia Hackett, eldest child of Joel and Emily Hackett, was born in Minnesota, January 1st, 1864. She married her second cousin, George E. Hackett son of Jacob Hackett of the 2nd generation. They were happy and devoted to each other but misfortune overtook them. Soon after their marriage they moved to Watertown, South Dakota, where a son was born to them but lived only a short time. Lydia was very ill for a long time and never fully recovered. I knew her well as a young lady and always admired her fine personality.

Olive Hackett, was born in Minnesota, April 25, 1866. In April 25, 1907 she married Arthur Wilkinson, Baraboo, and resided there until her death in January 16, 1921. She was but a year older than I and we were great pals. She had a fine personality and refined ways. Ambitious to make her way in the commercial world she engaged in dressmaking and millinery business with satisfactory success. She had only reached middle life when she became afflicted with cancer. The best scientific treatments were applied without success. She died at Baraboo, January 1st, 1921. She left a host of friends and relatives to mourn her loss.

Ella Hackett, born in Minnesota, July 4, 1869. She never married but spent a useful life in the home of her parents while they lived. She died April 9, 1947.

Robert Hackett, only son of Joel and Emily was born July 7, 1876. He married Julia Hubbard and for a time resided at North Freedom where he had a meat market and bought stock. They later moved to Canada. He now lives at Lethbridge, Alberta Canada. He attended the 68th reunion on September 10, 1949.

Belle Hackett, born June 17, 1898, died April 1, 1941. On October 2, 1900

Belle married Glenn Cole who was a Railway Telegraph operator. They resided at different places where his work took him, but they owned a home at North Freedom and resided there most of the time. Belle was an attractive and talented girl and always popular in her set. She had a good voice and was an accomplished pianist. Their home at North Freedom will long be remembered by the beautiful rock garden they created with great care and pride. They had one daughter, Olive, who was their "idol". She married Neal Powell. They reside at Baraboo. She is the only grandchild of the family of Joel and Emily Hackett. They have two sons. Belle died April 1st, 1941. Glen died in 1943.

HANNAH HACKETT GILE

Hannah Hackett, daughter of Samuel and Dency Hackett, was born near Toronto, Canada. She was two years old when she came with her parents to Illinois, and ten years later to Wisconsin.

On January 31, 1857 she married J. F. Gile. Two years later they went to Colorado and became residents of Colorado Springs where their several children were born and grew to maturity. The only data I have been able to find concerning these children is told by Frank Hackett in a letter written to the Hackett Reunion, 1909, telling of his visit at Colorado Springs and being entertained at the home of Mrs. Rose Montague, Hannah's daughter. She was of the Hackett type and entertained in like fashion.

It is remembered also, that two of the sons once visited at North Freedom, but I did not meet them. They were located in Michigan, at the time and their mother with them. It is a happy remembrance of many of us that "Aunt Hannah" visited at North Freedom and attended the Reunion in 1898. Tall, graceful, of fair complexion and fine personality she was a near duplicate of her sister, Mary Carpenter. It was her first visit back at the old home in forty years and made memorable that Reunion. I have no further detail on her but it is known she went to Michigan where she spent her remaining years. That she was a noble character, with high standards was the commendation heard of her at Colorado Springs and the same was plainly in evidence in her poise and personality. It is regrettable that her complete history is not available at this time.

DENCY MARIE HACKETT GRAY

Daughter of Samuel and Dency Hackett, born in Canada May 13, 1839, died January 23, 1915. On October 20, 1855 she married George W. Gray. To them four children were born: Julia Etta, George W., Jr., Wallace and Franklin. Dency was but six weeks of age when the family left Canada for Illinois, where they lived for ten years, then moved on to Wisconsin to settle in the then primitive country of the Baraboo valley. Her own very interesting story of her early experiences and recollections will be found elsewhere in these pages.



Geo. & Dency Gray



Joel Hackett



Emily Hackett

In good looks and personality she was the "flower" of the large Hackett family. That she possessed unusual qualities and ability also, is attested by the poems she wrote, describing "Home Life on the Farm" and "By the Old Baraboo" and many others. She was tall and fair and I never saw her when she was not "dressed for company", altho I was often in her home under various conditions, but never when it was not in perfect order.

Her husband being a millwright took him to different locations, but usually not many miles distant from North Freedom and father used to take me along, many times, when he took his grists for "Uncle George" to grind. I was always glad to go along as "Aunt Dency" always treated me so well and always had cookies, candies or other knick-knacks for me. I remember her home, particularly in Delton and at the "Slentz Mill" south of North Freedom. I used to go to the latter often to play with her youngest son Frank and to fish at the mill pond.

Aunt Dency was always a gracious figure at the Hackett Reunion and she usually had a new poem for the occasion. Her later years were not so happy. Her husband was stricken and became an invalid. This was after he had built them a nice cottage home in North Freedom where they might spend their remaining years but he was soon taken from her. Alone, and with none of her family near by to look after her and without sufficient means to hire suitable help she decided to go to the Wisconsin Soldier's Home at Waupaca. I visited her there but a few months before she died. I found her very unhappy but well provided with her physical needs. I have always regarded it as little less than tragic that so fine a character should need to pass her "sunset" so unhappily. Her story, before referred to, makes unnecessary further comment I might make. Her poems will live thru generations yet unborn.

FAMILY OF DENCY AND GEORGE W. GRAY

Julia Etta "Juliette" was born September 10, 1856 at Harrisville, Wisconsin. A woman of fine personality and pleasing ways, resembling her mother. She was married at an early age to John Northrop. To them two children were born, Lovilla Etta and George Elam. The father died when the children were small and they grew up in the home of their grandparents the Grays. Julia Etta died at Belvidere, Illinois. Lovilla married Frank Coats at Merrimac, Wisconsin where they lived for some time, but later moved to Baraboo, Wisconsin where they lived most of their married life. Frank died April 20th, 1949. Villa as she is best known to the family had the great misfortune of going totally blind after she was past sixty, but with faith and courage did not give up. She became interested in the Braille Alphabet, learned to read and write with the typewriter. By these she found some of life's greatest comforts in reading choice books and in corresponding with others; likewise afflicted, an accomplishment she can well be proud of. Born to the Coats were five children and five grandchildren. Carlton has one son, Howard. Maxwell has three sons, Maxwell Jr., Frederick and Donald. Marjorie has no children (Mrs. G. W. Hibbard), Franklin Jr. has one son, Juanita has no children (Mrs. H. N. Gall), George Elam is married and lives in Chicago, has one daughter Mildred. He has been employed by the C. & N. W. Railroad for many years.

Wallace Gray, Born at Briggsville, Wisconsin. Died December 1862.

George W. Gray, Born at Briggsville, Wisconsin February 22nd. Died September 1893.

Frank B. Gray was born 1863. He married Mary Campbell at North Freedom, Wisconsin where they lived several years, then he moved to South Dakota and later to Missouri where he died. To this union six children were born: Grace, Roy, Charles, Fay, Lovilla and Mark. This family developed considerable musical talent and organized a band and orchestra within the family, led by the father and they travelled through the country giving concerts which gained them favor and popularity. Later history of the family is not available.

HOME LIFE ON THE FARM

By Dency Hackett Gray--portraying life at the pioneer home of Samuel and Dency Hackett, at North Freedom, Wisconsin. Prepared for and read at the Hackett Reunion, November 24, 1898.

Back to childhood's careless hours a truant memory flies
And through the parted folds of life, tho'ts of the home rise,
Bringing to life, those memories that 'round our home life clustered
When mother worried and fretted so while father, sometimes, blustered.

Back to the farm house, crude and bare, the log house down the lane
Where we worked from early morn until darkness came again,
Too busy to think of going to school, too poor to hire a man,
We always had our work to do no matter how we'd plan.

As I sit in silence thinking, I hear, or try to believe,
I hear my father giving thanks for the blessings we receive;
Then, when supper is over and the 'good-nights' have all been said
There comes the usual order: 'come children be hustling to bed.'

We do not stop to argue, - we did that once before,
So we hustle away to the attic to a bed made up on the floor;
Soon we hear a rap on the ceiling and hear our father shout:
'You fellows better be quiet,' but a smothered laugh breaks out.

Then we hear him hunting for matches as he stumbles 'round down stairs,
With occasional, - 'confound the table; and something the same to the chairs.
But before he reaches the attic, we're wrapped in slumber deep,
Yet we catch his parting injunction: - 'you'd better be going to sleep!

When the roosters are crowing loudest as the day begins to dawn
There comes another rap on the ceiling, - "Boys! Boys! are you awake?
Then soon, in accents louder, comes father's meaning shout,
A girning up the stairway, - "Boys, you better be crawling out!"

In drowsy thought we'd venture, time for just one little snooze,
Perhaps we'd slept an hour or more when we hadn't a minute to lose,
For we were expected to do the chores and have the work a humming,
When mother calls in startling tones: - "Boys! Boys! your father is coming."

Out of that humble parent home, into a life of toil and care,
Each of the ten of us drifted away and left our dear parents there
And after a lapse of forty years we ten are spared to meet again,
Near the old home site, where we used to live and grew to be women and men.

And how gladly we welcome our sister dear who we have not seen for forty years;
Yes! forty years have left their trace on each bent form and wrinkled face.
And very plain it is to see, we're not as young as we used to be;
But life is thus, in a well set stage, and thanks we should give for our heritage.

(The sister referred to, is Hannah Hackett Gile, who had lived in Colorado, all these years, but was present at this Reunion.)

BY THE OLD BARABOO

By Dency (Hackett) Gray, 1898

How dear to my heart are the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollection present them to view,
The old log house by the river with the fireplace in it,
And every loved spot which my young childhood knew.
The log barn for the horses and the sheds that were near it
Where the sheep and the cattle together they grew,
As I think of the past how plain to my view,
Is the dear old home on the old Baraboo.

Yes, the old log house and the blacksmith shop near it,
Are so fresh in my memory, too,
With bellows and anvil, hammer and tongs,
Were so handy the horses to shoe.
And oft as we went to the spring after water
The cold winds would chill us most through,
Then back we would hurry to warm by the fireplace
In the house by the old Baraboo.

For there wer were sure to find a good fire,
In the old fireplace, so good and so true,
And many times I have wished by that fire I could warm
When out in the cold, Haven't you?
And think of the distance we traveled to school,
Two miles and more through the cold and the snow,
It isn't much wonder that so little we knew
When we lived on the banks of the old Baraboo.

And don't you remember about the last of September,
How we used to have quiltings and corn huskings too,
And our friends and our neighbors were invited to come
To help with the work and enjoy the fun;
Then to supper at dark they'd all repair,
Of the good things to eat each one had a share
Of the stuffed pig and turkey and pumpkin pie too,
For we had plenty to eat on the old Baraboo.

Oh! how well I remember the old green sleigh
That was often seen on the public highway,
As swift speeding horses, o'er ice and o'er snow
Went prancing and dancing as if for a show
And the big jingling sleighbells would make such a racket
All the neighbors would say, "there goes Mr. Hackett."
For none could compete with the old green sleigh
And gave it wide berth on the public highway.

But time has been ruthless and changes have come
The old house has passed from our view,
And so have the sheds, the barn and the shop,
The spring is filled up whence the water we drew,
No fireplace can warm the chill of our years
And only The Master can banish our tears,
Our dear ones have passed like the star and the dew
And our home is no more on the OLD BARABOO.

(Third generation)

FRANK HACKETT

Frank Hackett, son of Samuel and Dency Hackett, was born in Illinois, died at North Freedom, October 14, 1916. In 1859 he married Pauline Wiggins and to them one son, William James was born. They were incompatible and divorce followed. In 1861 he enlisted in Company F., 3rd Wisconsin Cavalry, was severely injured a year later at Ft. Scott, Kansas. He never fully recovered from this injury. In February 1867 he married Ann Eliza Loomis and to them eleven children were born, as follows:-

George W., December 17, 1867, Joseph F., May 6, 1869, Samuel Jerome, November 14, 1870, Joshua Terry, August 4, 1872, Mary Ann, March 23, 1874, John Mark, January 7, 1876, Jacob Alma, March 7, 1878, Martha Elizabeth, October 11, 1880, Laura Eva, May 16, 1882, Arthur J., April 10, 1884, Ethel May, August 18, 1892.

All were born at North Freedom; all but Ethel, in the log house.

Naturally, my memory of my father is very vivid. He was always kind and considerate, but exacting and strict in discipline. He was ambitious and a hard worker but generous to a fault in his helping of others, often to the neglect of his own interests. With so large a family to support he had his hands more than full, but we all learned to take our assigned parts at an early age and the total of our efforts soon began to count. A boy 12 to 16 years of age was expected to do a man's work in those days and he did it.

Our home was situated on forty acres adjoining the original "Hackett Homestead" on the west, now well within the corporate limits of the village. It was only partly cleared for cultivation as I first remember it. The Baraboo river cut off one corner, affording water for the pasture and a "swimmin' hole" for us boys, which we well remember. On the north side of the forty was "the hill," an outcropping of quartzite ledge, covered with oak timber and large stones. This made an ideal place for the "play ground" we boys developed into a community of miniature farms, stores,

a railroad and our "fair grounds" near by, all of which we made good use of. In later years these grounds were cleared of undergrowth etc., to become a picnic grounds and it was here several Fourth of July celebrations were held. Father's patriotism knew no bounds and he could always be found at the head of such celebrations and he always provided ways for aged or "shut-in" people to get to these celebrations. The north side of the location, sloping and well shaded, formed a natural location for seats with the speaker's platform below. These were real celebrations with the "spirit of '76".

My first recollection of helping at farming was at riding the horse while cultivating the Hopyard, as hops were the cash crop of the community at that time. It took a lot of work to maintain large yards and kept father busy from spring to fall. Hop-picking was a time of much activity and excitement, requiring much outside help, as everybody had hops. The pickers were mostly women and girls, many from Baraboo and other towns further away. The hops had to be dried and pressed for marketing and this required a building especially equipped, including drying kiln and large heating capacity. Ours was a log, two story building with drying kiln above. This later became part of the barn and hay loft, to which it was connected. Hops paid very well for a time but then came the "hop-crash," late in the seventys and father had to turn to other activities to support his ever-growing family, as there was not enough cleared land on his forty acres to profitably employ all his time.

Father was a very handy man and he took up butchering to supply his neighbors and also peddled meat to the town of Ablemans, four miles away where the railroad had a large stone quarry, employing many men. His undertaking was successful and he finally opened the first meat market in North Freedom. It was located on the corner where now the Bank stands. I was but a small boy when I was often left in charge of the shop while father was away on his routes.

It was in 1871 that the first train reached North Freedom over the newly constructed roadbed. I was but a small boy yet I remember many incidents that took place. Mother fed many of the workmen. A long "lean-to" was built on the side of the granary and barn which served as kitchen and dining room and beds were placed wherever enough room could be found in granary and hay loft of barn.

One incident in particular, I shall never forget. As the construction crew was working about a half mile east of North Freedom they discovered a large black bear in the woods near by. One of the men ran up to our place to get father to come with his old army musket to shoot the bear. Altho he had but one shell for his gun he went. The men had surrounded the woods where the bear was and when they knew the gun had arrived, men in different locations began to call; "Here he is". It was all confusion and the brush were thick. In parting the thick brush to answer a call, father found himself facing Mr. Bruin, only a few feet away, standing on his hind legs ready to embrace him. He admitted he was scared. He pulled the trigger without aiming. That scared the bear and he made for tall timber on the bluff a half mile away. With no more cartridges he got away and as we were all out watching to see if he came our way, we saw the bear galloping across an open field, with our old dog Jack, close behind, taking a nip at his haunches every little ways. Then he would turn on old Jack but he was too quick for him, and thus he pursued the bear to the edge of the woods. I have a very definite remembrance of this scene. And for weeks following we were not allowed to stray from home.

Following the arrival of the railroad, and the market it made for cordwood, (to supply their wood burning engines) new activity developed in clearing the land and made more work for my father and the hired men he employed. I recall, too, that the ox team was their main reliance for motive power. Getting their animals shod was a big job. The oxen did not take kindly to it and they had to have heavily framed "stocks" to fasten them in for this operation.

The men who were employed for wood chopping in winter and for grubbing and clearing the land in summer were about as hardy as the oxen they used to do the team work. I especially recall two brothers, Bill and Joe Farnsworth, wood choppers, who used to take a run around our house every morning, barefooted in the snow before pulling on their stockings and coarse leather boots, over which they never wore overshoes or rubbers of any kind. They claimed to never be troubled with cold feet and they never laid off a day on account of the cold.

A man by the name of Darby owned a quarter section of timber which cornered the Samuel Hackett homestead at the southeast corner, timber from which was cut into cordwood and logs and marketed when I was yet a small boy. The men who did the cutting built log cabins and moved their families onto the location to be handy to their



Taken at No. Freedom, 1902

work and the settlement was called "Darbyville." Many teams were engaged in hauling the wood and logs to town. For the shortest and best route they drove on the ice of the Baraboo river at the mouth of Seeley creek and followed it for about a half mile, thence joining grandfather's road and into North Freedom. This, too, was the same route father used in going to his forty acre tract for firewood. Near the end of one season when the ice was becoming of doubtful safety, father decided he would chance one more try over the ice. He had gone but a short distance on the ice when he beheld a team with heavy load had broken through the ice and all was wild commotion and the only thing to do was to go back to town for more help. He turned about and started back at full speed. His team was young and fractious and became unmanageable; the rack was thrown from the sled together with father and the first we knew at home, the team came into the yard with but the front bob attached and no driver. The man got no help and one of his horses was drowned. It is all very vivid to me.

While Frank Hackett was always amongst the foremost in advocating and putting across public improvements and a supporter of every cause that promised advancement for the community he never sought public office or praise for his freely given efforts. His service in public office was limited to several years as Justice of the Peace and as Street Commissioner of North Freedom. He also served, several years as President of the Old Settlers Association of Sauk County, and in that capacity, helped to develop the Old Settlers' Park, at Devils Lake, which later became part of the State Park there.

That he was a kindly man, a good neighbor and an honored citizen, cannot be questioned. Generous to a fault, he gave of his time and substance beyond his means. He was known in the vicinity as a "handy man" with the sick and I could name many of his neighbors whom he cared for during their last illness. He was always looking out for the unfortunate, often taking from our own limited supplies, and driving thru storms and deep snow to provide necessities to the needy. He was also much interested in all children of the community and I can think of no greater tribute to him than the fact that they nearly all used to call him "Uncle Frank." As a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, he was very zealous for the cause it served, and traveled far and near to attend their annual National encampments and local reunions, and we could always count on going to Baraboo with him on Decoration Day, before the day was observed at North Freedom.

As a member of the Latter Day Saint Church in which he was an Elder, he was a most zealous and sincere Christian and always ready to defend his faith, which he lived in everyday life. At the time of his death in 1916, he was comfortably situ-

ated in the home originally built for his mother, in North Freedom. His funeral, with the first motor hearse ever to serve at North Freedom, was one of the largest ever held there. A lone, beautiful white rose, contributed by his comrade in the Civil War, was the only floral decoration allowed on the casket. The eleven survivors of his twelve children were all present.

I cannot conclude this story without special mention of my mother, Ann Eliza Loomis Hackett. She was born at Albion, Michigan, August 7, 1948, and died at Richville, Minnesota, home of her daughter, Mary Prentice, July 27, 1939. No mother was ever more indulgent and self-sacrificing than she was. Of robust health she was able to surmount the endless and arduous tasks incident to rearing so large a family, without any of the modern conveniences her children have known. Our home was very plainly furnished and our needs were very few as compared to youngsters of this day, yet her services extended to tailoring clothes for us boys and dress making for the girls and always, a baby in the "old red cradle" to care for. Moreover she spun the yarn on the big spinning wheel I remember so well, and knitted all our socks and mittens.

There was little society in those days and she was not interested in what there was, until after her family was grown, when she did take active part in the Woman's Relief Corps and in her church work. In later years she did much at crocheting and other fancy work. I remember too, how well she managed her family and got us boys to accomplish our tasks by giving us "stints" to do after which we could go swimming, etc. Most of her later years, after our father's death was spent in Montana, Washington and California, with her daughters. She attended the Hackett Reunion the year before her death and was honored by having a movie taken of her and the crowd, as they passed by her, each depositing a flower. This film is in possession of the Reunion Association. She was the last of her generation of the Samuel Hackett family. Mother was totally blind during the last few years of her life but never complained, finding solace and comfort in her friends and in the radio. She was much loved and highly respected.

(Fourth and Fifth generation)
(Descendants of Frank Hackett)

WILLIAM JAMES HACKETT

"Billie Frank" as he was generally called for designation, was born to Frank and Pauline Wiggins Hackett at North Freedom, December 1, 1861. In he was married to Elizabeth Hackett, of Whitewater, daughter of James Hackett. To them a daughter, Daisy, was born. Billie was employed as a sewing machine salesman, and they resided at Whitewater, Milwaukee and Monroe, Wisconsin during the years he was thus employed. A divorce in ended this union. Later Billie engaged in insurance agency, married Miss Byrd Jackson of Bloomer, Wisconsin. To them a son, Leslie, was born, 1898. They resided at Eau Claire, Wisconsin where he was stationed in life insurance work. He was again divorced and later took up a deputyship for the Modern Woodmen of America, in the state of Tennessee where he has since resided, at Dickson, near Nashville. Billie grew to manhood in North Freedom and has always regarded his stepmother as his real mother. He early learned to shift for himself but has always felt keen affiliate devotion to our family, attending the annual Reunion whenever possible.

Daisy, daughter of William J. and Elizabeth Hackett was born 1882. She was still a small child when her parents were divorced. She remained with her mother and developed into splendid womanhood, later becoming active and prominent in the Royal Neighbor organization and in church and community work. She married Floyd Kirschner of Milwaukee, Wisconsin where they resided for several years, later moving to Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. A daughter Ruth was born to this union. She married Marlin Moe at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. They have two sons, David and Kenneth. Both the Kirschners and Moes are active Latter Day Saints.

Leslie Hackett, born to William J. and Byrd and he remained with his mother until her death, in California. He was engaged in Designing and selling Hollywood actors apparel, following it successfully for several years but died in his prime.

Billy's third marriage was to Miss Sadie Butler, She was born in New York State, they had no children, and both worked at organization work as Deputies in Modern Woodman and Royal Neighbors respectively. In 1944 they moved back to North Freedom, Wisconsin, located at North Freedom, his old home. He passed away in February, 1946. Sadie now resides at Columbia, Tennessee.

MARTHA ELIZABETH HACKETT VAIL

Martha Elizabeth was the second daughter of Frank and Ann Hackett; was born at North Freedom, Wisconsin, October 11, 1888. She grew up in the activities of home life at North Freedom, receiving her common school education there. On August 31, 1901 she married Wm. J. Vail at Delavan, Wisconsin and to them eight children were born. Her husband was born, March 31, 1872.

Martha was tall and fair, a decided Hackett with the stature of the Terry's. Her mild disposition and gentle manner made her a favorite among all with whom she associated; a most indulgent mother and kindly neighbor. Their large family and limited resources, together with her unstinted ambition, imposed on her, activities beyond her many home duties in order that her children could be properly provided for and educated. In the early years of their married life the Vails lived at North Freedom and at La Valle, Wisconsin, where he was employed in the butcher business. Later they moved to Montana to engage in farming on the broad prairies of the great west, but Vail was naturally a rover and they never stayed long in one place.

After having resided at different places in Montana and Washington, for several years, they finally settled down at Vancouver, Washington, adjacent to Portland, Oregon, where he again took up retail meat business. Here and at nearby Camas, Washington, the children grew to maturity, married and went on their own. By this time ill health had overtaken Martha and became serious after they had located at Camas. Here she departed this life on July 5, 1934, at the age of 46. It was my good fortune, yet sad mission, to visit her while on her death bed and I shall never forget her patience, tranquility and her sure faith in the future she knew she was approaching. She was an ardent Christian, a member of the Latter Day Saints Church.

GEORGE WASHINGTON HACKETT

George W. Hackett was born to Frank and Ann Hackett, in their log house home at North Freedom, December 17, 1867. On December 28, 1892 he was united in marriage to Diantha Gertrude Call, at Rockford, Illinois where he had met her at college. She was born at Janesville, Wisconsin, June 29, 1869. To them four sons were born; Gerald Adelbert and Harold Wallace, (twins) born at North Freedom, August 25, 1894; Howard Lloyd, born March 30, 1899 and Ralph Waldo Emerson, born January 1, 1904.

May I be pardoned for writing this in first person? I shall try not to overdo it, but it is not an easy task for one to write about one's self. I came "on the stage of action" in semi-pioneer days," came up the hard way with little education and meager early opportunities. As the eldest of eleven children, my services were needed at home, preventing me from full attendance at school but gave me valuable experience which has come into good use throughout my life. (I am writing this at age 78.) I shall skip my boyhood but in most activities I did a man's work from the time I was fifteen or before, but along with this hard work came compensations in the happy home living and in the ordinary events of community life, which I have cherished throughout the years.

My first big adventure occurred in the spring of 1887, age 19, when I accompanied a car of stock and farming equipment, for an uncle, then moving to South Dakota. I spent that summer on the farm of a homesteader and saw many a homesick day, but returned home in the fall with more money than all I had ever possessed up to that time. I did not squander it but put it to uses which have been gratifying to me all my life. The next year I returned again to South Dakota, for the harvest, then on to Seattle, Washington, late that fall. I would be twenty one that December and had to get out on my own. After varied experiences, including working in the Big Woods, I was taken sick and on advice of my doctor returned to Dakota in June and home in the next fall.

It was while I was on this trip, when offered employment for which my limited education did not qualify me, that I determined to get more education, in some way, but it had to be a short cut as my resources would not permit more. I remained at home the next summer and did most of the work on the large farm father had rented and, with the earnings saved, I went to Rockford, Illinois to take a course in the Rockford Business College that fall, 1890. I took only a six month's course but it was the most valuable schooling I ever got, aside from the "school of experience."

It was at this college I met the girl who has been my helpmate and happy companion thru our more than fifty years together. We began our big adventure on a

200 acre farm, but gave it up after two years and purchased a 40 acre tract from my father, the same being part of the original holdings of Samuel Hackett, my grandfather, and described elsewhere in these pages as "the sugar bush." This was mostly heavy timber and the work of clearing it was strenuous, but I had built a good frame house and the surroundings near the Baraboo river, where Seeley Creek joined it, were very pleasant. But the future did not look promising so we sold the place, purchased the store property and lots of "Uncle Tim" on the main corners at North Freedom where I set up a meat market, which I conducted for six years, during the time the iron mining operations were active near North Freedom.

In 1905, while yet in the meat business, I purchased, from my father, half of our original home forty and there established "Raven Rock" poultry farm, which soon won wide reputation. This activity took me into the field of poultry judging, writing for poultry publications and farm magazines; into Poultry Extension Service, for eleven years, with the University of Wisconsin. Finally, in the same work, with the U. S. Department of Agriculture for three years, during World War I. At the close of this work in 1920, we moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota where, with others I opened up a Poultry Supply and Hatchery business which I managed for years, but the depression which followed 1920, and misplaced faith in my partners, prevented success in this venture, in which I took heavy loss.

Having been deeply interested in poultry from my earliest recollection it became easy for me to follow that course, and doubtless accounts for what success I have attained. In this work, my connection with the University of Wisconsin and my contacts with leading poultry authorities throughout the country, served me well in extending my activities. In about 1920, when turkeys began to make their comeback, I turned my attention to this branch of the industry, both in judging and in research work. In 1923 I helped organize the first exclusive turkey show ever held anywhere, at Grand Forks, North Dakota. Judged at same for many years, then became its manager and made of it, what has since been conceded to be the "greatest turkey show in the world."

I have judged at about all the big shows in the U. S. and some in Canada, and have the reputation of having handled more high class turkeys than any other judge. Was often designated as "Dean of Turkey Judges," in which capacity I did serve at the great Poultry Show at the World's Poultry Congress, at Cleveland, Ohio, 1939. For ten years, from 1932, I was editor of the American Turkey Journal, published at Grand Forks, and thru this service and my wide range of service in judging, and writing, I doubtless became one of the best known Hacketts in this country, and in it all I have endeavored to so conduct my activities, that only honor to the Hackett name could result. I am proud of my reputation and of the many fine friends I have made.

While I have given freely in service in public offices and civic societies, particularly in our home town of North Freedom, where I was honored to the highest office within the gift of the people, home life and obligations have never taken second place. My life has been a very busy one, often strenuous and with misfortunes intermixed, but we have always looked for the brighter side and have lived happily thru more than fifty years of married life. Temperate in all things, a Republican in politics and Presbyterians in our church connections we have tried to do our duty with the talents God has given us.

"Dee" Gertrude Call was born near Janesville, Wisconsin, of Scotch, English parentage, her mother being a Sanborn, originally from New Hampshire. Her father was born in Maine, a typical Yankee, frugal, ambitious and a highly respected citizen, a carpenter by trade. He moved his family to Rockford, Illinois when Gertrude was a small girl and there she grew to maturity. She met her future husband when they were both attending Rockford Business College in 1890 and were married two years later. They at once took up the activities of married life on a large farm adjoining North Freedom, but she had always been rather frail and was untutored for such strenuous duties as a farm requires, so they left this farm for a smaller place of their own, two years later.

Meanwhile their twin boys had been born. Two more sons were born to them at North Freedom where they resided until the boys were well grown. Naturally of a retiring nature, Gertrude is a devout Christian, with high ideals for her family and for the betterment of society in general. The friends she made were always of the most substantial kind and became much devoted to her throughout her years. Always interested in the best of literature she was active in local study circles and served long as member of the North Freedom Library Board and as its president. Al-

ways interested in and closely associated with her husband in his activities, she edited the "Home Page" of the American Turkey Journal during the years it was published, and thru it her acquaintance became nation wide. In short, her sterling character, her high ideals and her splendid personality commanded the highest esteem of all who knew her.

(Fifth generation)

CHILDREN OF GEO. W. AND D. GERTRUDE HACKETT

Gerald Adelbert Hackett, son of Geo. W. and D. Gertrude Hackett was born with his twin brother Harold Wallace at North Freedom, Wisconsin, August 25, 1894. Died September 16, 1900, age six years.

Harold Wallace, twin brother of Gerald. Education: Graduated at Berea College, Kentucky, 1917, Post graduate work at Columbia University, University of Illinois and Harvard University.

On May, 1918 married Anna Powell of Vermont, while serving in Aviation in World War I. Four children were born to them: Elizabeth, (Betty) born at Berea, Kentucky, December 18, 1919, Harold Wallace Jr., born at Kobe, Japan, March 7, 1921. Graduated from Minnesota University, Roger Fleming born at Kobe, Japan, October 23, 1922. Graduated from Carlton College and Harvard University. Served as a Lieutenant in World War II, married Carol Gray of Evanston, Illinois, 1946, David Powell, born at Kobe, Japan, March 26, 1927. Graduated from Vermont University and Harvard University. Married Sarah Ann Andrews of Gloucester, Massachusetts, 1946. They have a son Paul, born July 3, 1947.

In 1920 Harold was appointed by the American Board of Missions of Boston to the office of Secretary Treasurer to serve in Japan. He went there in July of that year and remained there until 1940 when the gathering clouds of war forced him to return to the United States. His twenty years of service in Japan gave him contacts, both political and social which made his service desirable to the Government in the Intelligence Division of the Navy during World War II. He was given rank of Lieutenant Commander and resided in Washington during the war.

Anna Powell Hackett was a trained nurse before their marriage and during their residence in Washington served as a supervising nurse in George Washington Hospital. She is very capable and has been a real help-mate to Harold.

(Fifth generation)

HOWARD LLOYD HACKETT

Howard L. Hackett, son of George W. and D. Gertrude Hackett was born at North Freedom, March 30, 1899. After finishing high school at Reedsburg, Wisconsin he went to Wabash College, Crawfordsville, Indiana for two years, withdrawing to join the U. S. Marines, at Great Lakes, during first World War. He had not yet finished training when the war closed. He then engaged in different vocations until he decided to embark in a career of salesmanship. He has held positions with different manufacturers of Flour and Feed, in which work he made good progress and advancement.

On September 3, 1925 he was united in marriage to Miss Helen Zutz, of Rhinelander, Wisconsin, born August 2, 1904. They have one daughter, JoAnn, born August 7, 1934. Becoming dissatisfied with continuous travel in his sales work he accepted an attractive offer made him by the Wilson Mercantile Company of Rhinelander, wholesalers of groceries. He fitted well into the organization and soon was advanced to the position of Assistant Manager and Manager of sales. He is now manager of same business.

Howard stands well in the community, where he is active in many public enterprises and civic societies. At present he is Past President of the Rhinelander Chamber of Commerce, is member of the city school board and holds high positions in Masonic Lodge; is a member of the Methodist church and is active in the Sunday School. In every activity his record is an honor to the Hackett name. Helen, his wife, likewise enjoys wide popularity, is prominent in social and educational activities and did much important work on committees, in war work.

Ralph Waldo Emerson Hackett, son of George W. and D. Gertrude Hackett was born at North Freedom, Wisconsin, January 1, 1904. He finished high school at Minneapolis

1922 and was President of his class. He entered Wabash College at Crawfordsville, Indiana that fall where he gained distinction. After two years there he withdrew to become understudy to the playwright Elliott Nugent, in New York City. In three years appearance on the stage he had won the acclaim of many prominent actors and playwrights. Meanwhile he had written many short poems which had found acceptance in leading magazines of the country such as Scribners and Century.

He died of blood poisoning, in New York City, July 27, 1927. Burial was in his home town, North Freedom, Wisconsin. With his passing many hopes and great promise vanished.

(To his mother--)

I have a little handful
Of polished things to say
I will fling them all to you
And go upon my way ...
And somewhere on the lonely road
I'll pause with empty hand,
And pour a heart-full out to one
I know will understand.

R.E.H.

JOSHUA TERRY HACKETT

Son of Frank and Ann Loomis Hackett. "Jess" as he was familiarly known was born at North Freedom, August 4, 1872. On March 18, 1895, married Miss Elsie Williams, who was born at Williams Bay, Wisconsin in 1878. He passed from this life at Elkhorn, Wisconsin, April 14, 1939. To this union six children were born: DeLoss, born January 11, 1897 at East Delavan, Wisconsin, Herbert, born December 27, 1898 at North Freedom, Claude, born January 15, 1904 at North Freedom, Bessie, born February 18, 1905 at Williams Bay, Fern F., born February 12, 1911 at Warrensburg, Missouri, DeForrest W., born March 21, 1918 at Lake Geneva.

Joshua grew to maturity at North Freedom, acquiring common school education offered there. As a youth "Jess" was very active, ambitious and most friendly. He was always cheerful, very sentimental and generous to a fault. He had many friends wherever he went. He was a kind husband and indulgent father, closely attached to home life.

Early in life he became converted to the religion of his parents and grandparents, that of the Latter Day Saints Church and put into the new life the same earnestness and enthusiasm he always displayed in his every undertaking. He soon became an Elder and Missionary in local fields, serving in Illinois, Missouri and Wisconsin. Well versed in the Scriptures and firmly grounded in his faith, and with good delivery, he became a forceful instrument in the cause he espoused. But receiving no regular salary for his ministerial work, and with a growing family to support and educate, he found it necessary to turn to other employment. Being handy with tools he took up carpenter work and later, when offered a responsible position as superintendent of a large estate on Lake Geneva, he accepted that; continuing until ill health forced him to retire. His intense love for livestock, especially, horses, and other training he had received on the home farm came in good play here. His last illness was severe and protracted. His remains were laid at rest in Oak Hill Cemetery, his home town, North Freedom.

(Fourth generation)

MARY HACKETT PRENTICE

MARY ANN HACKETT, eldest daughter born to Frank and Ann Hackett was born at North Freedom, in the old log house, March 23, 1874. At an early age she became "Little Mother" maid and nurse to an ever increasing family of brothers and sisters and served her apprenticeship well. On August 3, 1901 she was married to Fred Prentice, at Wadena, Minnesota, and began homemaking at Deer Creek in the same county where her husband was in charge of a creamery. He was born in Pennsylvania June 15, 1873.

There was born to this union, seven children as follows: Erma Felicia, Clifford and Clifton, (twins), Merle Fred, Dorothy Debbie, Ramona Belle and Willard Wilson.

Fred Prentice died at Richville, Minneosta, October 20, 1934. After finishing school at North Freedom, Mary took a further course in teaching and followed that profession for several years in Wisconsin and in Dakota. She made friends readily and was always very popular wherever she went. Being the eldest daughter in the family her life at home was not easy but she did get many valuable lessons from it which served her well in later years. Equipped with keen intellect, fine personality and friendly ways she has never wanted for friends of the right sort and has more than paid back in kind, for every kindness done her. Among those who have been most interested in and most helpful at the many Hackett Reunions she has attended, there is probably not one who has ever been more popular. Her literary ability has been favorably recognized and demonstration of that ability will be found within these pages elsewhere.

In about 1903-4 when the "Soo-Line" put in a new short cut line from Minneapolis to Winnipeg, crossing Ottertail county in Minnesota, the new town site of Richville looked like a winner, she and her ambitious young husband decided to cast their lot there, invest on the ground floor and establish a permanent home. Prentice and his brother-in-law put in a general store and with the coming of the telephone line, which placed their local operator in their store, Mary became "Central" along with her household duties, which were increasing with her increasing family. For a few years, the town progressed according to calculations, but for causes I will not attempt to relate, other towns in that part of the county stepped up and Richville began going the other way. It was then they disposed of their store, bought a plot of unimproved land near by and proceeded to improve it. But this farm could not be made profitable from the start so Fred took to the road as a traveling salesman for several years.

Meanwhile the family was growing up and the farm offered a desired outlet for the energy and ambition of the boys who are to be commended for what they did there. Later Fred quit the road, devoted more of his time to the farm and also began the manufacturing of radiator cement and accessories for automobiles. He had gotten a fine start, having reached the profitable stage when like a flash from the blue, he was cut down in his prime. He was a kind husband, an indulgent father and honored as friend and neighbor.

Mary was a most devoted wife and has led a lonely life since his departure but has continued to reside at Richville in her own home in town and still owns the farm over which she maintains general supervision. Her services to her neighbors, which takes in the whole community, have been manifold and their expressions of their appreciation and affection are most generously demonstrated in many, many ways. Her role as a leader in the community is unchallenged. Her ministrations in times of sickness and distress, among friends and relatives has often caused her to be referred to as "Angel of Mercy" which she truly is. If we are to be rewarded according to our works, she certainly has much to look ahead to when she has finished her course here, and has received the summons: "Well Done!"

(Fifth generation)

CHILDREN OF MARY HACKETT PRENTICE

ERMA FELECIA, daughter of Fred and Mary Hackett Prentice was born November 20, 1902 in Deer Creek, Minnesota. On May 11, 1925, she married Ross H. Vail. Three children were born to them, are recorded under their fathers name, likewise a Hackett. Erma grew up at Richville, Minnesota, graduated from high school at Perham, Minnesota and took up teaching. Soon after their marriage they moved to Vancouver, Washington, later to Portland where they engaged in the retail meat business. With her husband seriously afflicted with rheumatic trouble, Erma proved her metal by stepping in to help in carrying on the market. After years of intense suffering Ross passed away. Erma is now living in California having married George H. Wellnitz.

CLIFFORD F. PRENTICE was born in North Dakota, April 28, 1904, a twin. He grew up at Richville, Minnesota until at age 18 he joined the U. S. Marines and served out a three year term. On December 6, 1930 he married Miss Minnie Otto, Minnesota. They have three children: Clifford DeWitt, born September 21, 1931; Fredrick C., born October 30, 1936 and Lowell Lee, born March 15, 1941. For the past ten years the family has resided at Gary, Indiana where Clifford is engaged in railroad work, in connection with the great steel works there. With good personality and genial ways, Clifford has been popular among his associates, in 1943 being elected

Trustee of Portor Company. He has always worked to high standards and his code of morals is of the best. He is a highly respected citizen. His wife, Minnie, is a gracious lady of pleasing personality and a general favorite.

CLIFTON A. PRENTICE, twin to Clifford, as per above. He was married to Miss Ann Boedigheimer, at Richville, December 28, 1928 where they both grew up. Four children were born to them: Betty, born June 28, 1929, Mary Ann, born February 1, 1931, Howard J. born March 13, 1933 and LaVonne, born October 23, 1934. They began their married life on his parents' farm near Richville, but later moved to Minneapolis where Clifton engaged in various occupations. The family still resides in Minneapolis. Died in Seattle, Washington, October 24, 1947. Was brought back home.

MERLE FRED PRENTICE, born at Richville, Minnesota, April 20, 1905, died July 23, 1942. On May 5, 1926 he married Miss Anna Marie Peterson, Minneapolis and to them three children were born: Yvonne Marie, October 5, 1927, Shirley Ann, born June 25, 1933 and Jon Fred, born October 13, 1935.

The family has continued to reside in Minneapolis. Merle accepted a position with the George A. Hormel Packing Co. and from the start showed skill and proficiency in that line of work, and at the same time gained the confidence of his employers to the extent that they backed him financially in setting up in the retail meat business for himself.

His progress was rapid and he prospered so well he at one time operated four retail markets in Minneapolis and vicinity but great misfortune overtook him, when in 1941 serious illness resulted in a major operation and on July 25, 1942 he passed away leaving an enviable record and a great host of friends. A man of fine personality, keenly devoted to his family and a sincere Christian, his early passing is lamented.

His wife, Ann, is a lady of like fine character and accomplishments, also a devout Christian. She is courageously carrying on in the rearing of her children.

DOROTHY DEBBIE PRENTICE was born March 13, 1910. On November 27, 1937 she married Glen Curtis DeHart, in Oregon where one son was born to them, August 4, 1931. They later moved to California where she now resides. Dorothy attended common school at Richville and later attended High School at Minneapolis. The son, Curtis DeHart, Jr., received his license to fly an airplane on his seventeenth birthday.

RAMONA BELLE PRENTICE, was born at Richville, March 5, 1912. She finished high school at Perham and afterward took a course in nursing at Fergus Falls. On March 29, 1931, she married John H. Glieden, at Brooten, Minnesota, where they engaged in farming for a few years. Later her husband became a traveling salesman, his work requiring the family moving about in several states, Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota and North Dakota. They have a son and a daughter:

John Henry, Jr. born May 13, 1932 and Mary Eleanor, born July 29, 1935. "Mona" has charming personality, is very active, and soon becomes a favorite wherever she is located. She is a devoted wife and mother and all are much devoted to her.

WILLARD WILSON PRENTICE, generally known as "Johnnie" was born at Richville, September 8, 1915, youngest of the Prentice children. He grew up at Richville a very ambitious boy and became much help in developing the Prentice farm there. He came to Minneapolis and worked with his brother Merle in the meat business. Later he went to California to engage in the same line of work. During World War II he worked in a war plant at San Francisco, but is now again in the meat business at Oakland, California. Married Winona Springer, Donna Lee was born December 23, 1945.

(Fourth generation)

JACOB A. HACKETT

"Jake," as he was familiarly known, was born at North Freedom, Wisconsin, March 7, 1878. After finishing school at North Freedom he took special training for teaching and in _____ put his learning into practice as principal of schools at Valley Junction, Wisconsin. Meanwhile he had become interested in U. S. Railway Postal Service, took the required course and entered the service in _____. His principal runs were between Chicago and Minneapolis, but still making North Freedom his home. In April, 1912 he married Anna Bluemchen Bittrich, she having been previously married and the mother of one child, a daughter, Hazel. Anna was

born in Germany, coming to America as an infant with her parents who located near North Freedom

To Jake and Anna five children were born: all at North Freedom. Dean J., March 30, 1914; Lenore L., April 10, 1916; Thelma C., January 31, 1918; Wanda May, October 18, 1919; Dorothy May, January 18, 1922.

Continuing to reside at North Freedom, Jake secured a lot on a newly platted addition to North Freedom on what was his father's original home place. There they built a fine, large square house which has served the family well thru the intervening years; and not only the immediate family, but has been a hospitable rendezvous for many of the Hackett kindred while attending annual reunion gatherings. On more than one occasion the reunion was held at this home.

From a scenic viewpoint the home is advantageously situated on about the highest elevation in the village, excepting the bluff to the north, which presents a fine background from this location, the house being mentioned in my descriptive sketch of the village. From Jake's large front porch, practically the whole village can be seen and much of the valley off to the Southwest. A bit further away, to the west, we can see the former homes of cousins Wesley and Major. Jake has taken much pride in the upkeep and care of his home and grounds and the place is widely known for its friendly atmosphere and hospitality.

Jake found his duties for "Uncle Sam," not only somewhat monotonous, with long hours and much night work, but also hazardous. He had several close calls in wrecks, and mishaps, and one in which it was so very close he was quite seriously injured, but he never failed to answer calls to duty. Let it also be said to his credit that during all these busy years he did not overlook his indulgence to his growing family, not only in providing them their material needs, but likewise, the recreational advantages and opportunities of the scenic out-of-doors Wisconsin so abundantly supplies with her countless lakes, streams, woods and fields. Frequent vacations with all or most of the family included, afforded close family affiliations, for which the Hacketts are justly noted. In all these activities and interests, his good wife Anna has taken her full share of responsibilities, and to them both there is much credit due for the fine family they have reared, and who, from now to the end of their days will, I am sure, bless and comfort them.

Jake's intimate friends have always been very fond of him and among his wide acquaintance he has always been honored and respected. Anna likewise stands high in the esteem of all who know her. They have done honor to the Hackett name. Anna died April 12, 1946.

Dean married Emmeline, Lenore married Kenneth Moe, Thelma married Ted Weiss, daughter, Barbara Ann, Wanda married Clarence Miller, Dorothy married Neil Johnson, son Earl, daughter Adele.

Dean served in the Army in World War II and is a great booster for California where he now resides.

Thelma attended Normal and was a successful teacher being for sometime the Principal of the North Freedom School.

Lenore and Dorothy spent several years in Milwaukee where they did secretarial work.

Wanda has always been the "home" girl but during the war she was employed at the Badger Powder Plant.

(Fifth generation)

HAZEL HACKETT COX

Hazel was the only child born to J. F. "Bud" and Nellie Fisk Hackett, born October 20, 1895. In 1919 Hazel married David Cox, and to them six children were born as follows: Darrel D., July 1, 1920; m. Kathryn Middleton, 1943, Delmar M., August 18, 1921; m. Eleanor Bruce, 1945, Howard J., February 8, 1924; m. Judith Zinn, 1945, Gordon F., December 8, 1927; Isabel H., April 23, 1929; Kathryn H., June 10, 1930; m. Robert Wells, 1948.

Hazel was but a small child when they moved to Valley Junction, Wisconsin, where her father had bought unimproved, cutover land but they soon gave up the gigantic task and moved to town where they purchased a hotel and later a store. This move gave Hazel better schooling advantages and more contact with people. On finishing school she took up teaching. She always loved children and was adept at handling them. She taught in the U. S. Indian Service at Klamath Agency, Oregon and at Mt. Pleasant, Michigan.

Hazel has proved to be a very proficient mother and an indulgent one as is evidenced by the family, who are to be found at the Reunion annually, and taking active part in the programs. Two of the Cox boys did notable service in the recent war. Darrel, an ambulance driver with the 9th Army, Howard being a German prisoner for sometime and Gordon joining the Marines in 1945 served in China, Guam, Alaska and the States. The family resides in Beloit where David, the father has a good position as a mechanic.

(Fourth generation)

SAMUEL JEROME HACKETT

Samuel Jerome Hackett, son of Frank and Ann Hackett, was born at North Freedom, November 14, 1870. He was named for both his grandfathers, Samuel Hackett and Jerome Loomis. He was married to Miss Luna Wiggings, 1893. She was born at Baraboo. Luna was a woman of fine personality and accomplishments, particularly in vocal music. Her excellent soprano voice was a great asset to North Freedom society during all her mature years. She taught school at an early age or until she was married. She had many friends. To this union one son, Carrol was born on September 22, 1894.

"S. J.", as he was familiarly known, grew to manhood at North Freedom and was the first one in the Frank Hackett family to go thru the nine grades of the local school and graduate from same. Having had considerable trouble from an injured knee, which made him unequal to most farm work, resulted in giving him a better opportunity for more schooling and reading than we had had. This added advantage had fired his natural inclination for mechanical and scientific pursuits rather than agriculture. He seemed to have always held somewhat apart from the rest of us, so far as mutual interests were concerned, but not so in our closely knitted family relations.

After a short period of indefinite vocation he became interested in stationary engineering and was soon operating a large hoisting engine for the C&N&W railroad at its stone quarry at Ableman, a few miles from North Freedom. From there he was sent out with construction crews in heavy masonry work, doing the hoisting of great stone blocks in building bridge abutments, etc. After serving a few years at this work he was advanced to taking charge of like construction and supervised the building of important stone structures at Chicago, Kansas City and elsewhere. During the time he was engaged in these activities, Sam's hobby was "flying machines," a subject then much talked of but nothing definite had been accomplished until the Wright Bros. made their successful flight at the time Sam was about to venture into building something he had figured out on a little different basis. However, he found it would take large capital to materialize his visions, and before he got anyone greatly interested in his plans, other matters and offers, further deterred action until it was deemed too late and too expensive to attempt further adventure in that line.

Sam's scientific mind was always working and in later years it found ample subject for study and activity in the radio. He installed many for his friends and did much service work on them, but still continued his engineering work in the stone quarries south of North Freedom, until an accident, resulted in serious complications which caused his death on February 13, 1945. He had spent most of his life in the town where he was born, widely known as a patriotic and most useful citizen. For several years he served on the village council and as village Clerk, and on important committees, thus having had much to do with the best interests of the village in which he had accumulated several pieces of property. He was prominent in Masonic circles in the vicinity and for many years had been Camp Clerk of the

He was always well versed on all important matters and his advice was frequently sought. He will be much missed but long remembered by a wide circle of relatives and friends.

(Fifth generation)

CARROL E. HACKETT
(Son of Sam Hackett)

Carrol E., son of Samuel J. and Luna Wiggins Hackett, was born at North Freedom, September 22, 1894. In 1920 he married Miss Rachel Mather, of Baraboo and to them two daughters and one son were born, as follows: Elaine L., August 8, 1922; Nann Adele, April 11, 1924 and Bruce, May 2, 1934. After finishing high school, Carrol went to University of Wisconsin for two years, then to the State School of Mines at Platteville, Wisconsin and from there he enlisted in World War I, in his country's service, in which he saw service in Europe.

Taking up civilian life on his return from military service he located at Baraboo in the Garage and Oil business. He later sold his business and accepted a position as traveling salesman, with the Skelly Oil Company. This he followed for several years, having located at Omaha, meanwhile. He is now Assistant Superintendent of Prudential Life Insurance Company. He later took on a Life Insurance Agency in that city, at which he is still engaged.

Carrol, has a very pleasing personality and kindly ways, and is much devoted to his family. He was always a great pal with his father and will doubtless be the same to his son Bruce. He has taken active interest in Boy Scout work and has also taught a boy's Sunday School Class. He is keenly responsive to his citizenship duties and takes a prominent part in community welfare projects.

His wife, Rachel, is a charming lady of poise and gracious manner, a devoted mother and wife. Their fine daughters have developed into splendid type of womanhood. Both took active parts in war work during World War II. Elaine was married on May 25, 1945 to Germaine F. Jackey. Adele and Bruce are at home.

(Fifth and Sixth generation)

CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF JOSHUA T. AND ELSIE HACKETT

De Loss L., born January 11, 1897, m. Hazel Gunderson, Strum, Wisconsin. No children. Enlisted April 17, 1917 - National Guard, serving until January 14, 1919. With 9th Q.M. Co. Bakers and Cooks World War I. Served head cook base hospital Camp Ord., California, 7 months World War II. A born salesman, having sold printing, advertising, aluminumware, novelties, cars. Has also operated, built-up, many restaurants on the West Coast and resold them. Past eight years has bought and sold antiques, wholesale and retail along with his auction house. His wife has been a very helpful hand in all his adventures.

Herbert m. Eva Orville August 1918, Williams Bay, Wisconsin. Children: Joan Eva, born July 16, 1920; Lester Grant, born January 11, 1922; Marilyn Jean, born August 23, 1929.

Capable and industrious, Herbert has managed a large estate on Lake Geneva, Wisconsin, and a large dairy farm in Illinois. He is also a capable mechanic and was employed in a war plant at Minneapolis during World War II. He is now in charge of waterworks at Williams Bay, Wisconsin. His wife Eva is both capable and accomplished. They are highly esteemed.

Claude, born January 15, 1903, m. Margjorie Mapes, 1943. Two children, Kenneth age 4 and Claudia, age two. Two children by previous marriage, Audrey F. age twenty three and Gary, Age twelve. The musician of this family. Talented to play any instrument in the band. Resided in California since 1933, at which time he was engineering and reopening old gold mines. A finished mechanic with ability to meet any obstacle. The past ten years has been in the building and contracting game. Having built homes for such famous people as Molly and Fibber McGee at Pasey, California where he now resides.

Bessie Hackett, born February 18, 1905, m. March 3, 1927 to Fred Barlow who died 1933. Remarried Ralph Davidson 1937. One son, David Ralph, born July 28, 1940.

This very lovely lady is talented in very many ways. Being a finished pianist. With unexcelled ability for serving fine food and entertaining. An active church worker also belongs to many local clubs. For the past many years she has never failed to have this family group at either Christmas or New Years. The Davidsons Pharmacy

is one of the most thriving in this community of Harvard, Illinois. Ralph is probably one of the most efficient pharmacists in Northern Illinois

Fern F. Hackett, born February 12, 1911, m. Alice Denison, December 31, 1928. Alice was born May 19, 1910. They have two sons: David Burton, born October 20, 1929 and Jon Terry, born November 23, 1934. Fern, or Vern, as he prefers to be called, is a high class mechanic and did important service for the Government in a war plant at Minneapolis during World War II. A fine family. David married Sara Stewart of Albany, Georgia, March 4, 1949. Vern has a machine shop at Lake Geneva.

Alice is a lady with poise and charm and has considerable literary ability, serving the community in many ways, is popular and has many friends.

De Forrest, born March 21, 1918, m. Joy Watson, February 1945 who has three children by previous marriage: Ronnie, age eighteen, Nancy, age sixteen, Carol, age twelve. De Forrest is the youngest of the family, Babe as he is better known. A high school graduate. Did military service with the overseas forces, serving three years in China with military engineers. He is now known as one of the Dean Milk Company's finest cheese makers. Joy, his wife holds a position as secretary for a large manufacturing company. They now reside at Harvard, Illinois.

Children of Herbert and Eva Hackett: Joan Eva, m. Charles Wright, December 6, 1948; Marilyn Jean, m. Gerald Old; Lester Grant, graduated from Beloit College an Art Major student, elected to Phi Beta Kapa - also a member of Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

(Fourth generation)

JOSEPH F. (BUD) HACKETT

Joseph Franklin Hackett was born at North Freedom, May 6, 1869, second son of Frank and Ann Hackett. Married Miss Nellie Fisk, born in the same locality, August 14, 1887. To them was born one daughter, Hazel, born at North Freedom, Wisconsin, October 20, 1895. They had purchased a tract of cutover pine stumpage on which "Bud" had hoped to develop a good farm, but after several years of untiring effort to that end, found he could expect but small compensation for the effort expended. He sold his land, bought a small hotel in town and later went into the mercantile business there. Even though a railroad junction, the village did not develop as it had promised and when railroad activities moved to a new junction a few miles south, he sold out his store and holdings in Valley Junction and accepted a position offered him at Wyeville, the new junction. Was later transferred to the new town of Adams which was made division headquarters on the Milwaukee branch of the C&N-W. line.

After some years spent at this location, he was taken seriously ill and after long hospitalization at Milwaukee, and every effort to restore his health had been resorted to, he was taken back to North Freedom, at his own urgent request, and there he died January, 1928. Burial in Oak Hill cemetery at North Freedom. His widow, Nellie Fisk Hackett still survives. Her family were originally from New York state and were among the more prominent early settlers in Sauk County. Nellie is a woman of many capabilities and worthy aspirations.

The brotherly affection which existed between Bud and myself was such as is seldom equaled. While quite different in our general likes and dislikes, our common interests and our mutual respect for each other's desires were so alike, compatibility seemed perfect and thereby made it always desirable to be in each other's presence and to share our mutual plans and prospects. In our early activities at home we were always together, at play or at work. I was the older but Bud the larger and stronger as we approached maturity.

Being the older boys in a large family, with very limited resources, we early had to assume the performance of tasks, now considered entirely beyond juvenile duties. While yet in our early teens we would wield the axe and saw all day, cutting down and working up into cordwood or otherwise, large trees and then with team hitched to heavy sleighs, load and haul the same to where wanted. Then, a little later, but before we reached our maturity, we would take the respective teams assigned to us at our own solicitation, and join the long line of teams, which in those days left town long before daylight each morning, to make two trips per day to locations from five to seven miles distant, where wood choppers were converting heavy timber into cordwood and sawlogs.

Brother Bud's keen intellect and wit made him outstanding in school and a popular asset at parties and socials. These were often held at country homes which meant those well remembered sleighrides, with four-horse teams, hitched to heavy sleighs and with many strings of loud sounding, cheery sleighbells, now only a memory. These sleighrides were much different than the popular "hayrack" sleigh rides where hilarity mingles with rude remarks while cold feet and icy fingers prevail. Rather the old fashioned sleighride was cuddling down in a wagon box with deep sides, a deep bed of straw at the bottom, covered with blankets, and with heavy and ample fur robes for wrapping. Here was real comfort and afforded much prized opportunity for the shy boy and girl to cuddle close together, and perhaps to whisper things they would not have ventured under less favorable situations, for such is early adventures in love-making, or was in those days.

It was on occasions such as I have described and at home gatherings, that Bud used to provoke much mirth and laughing by his droll humor and witty jests. In later years after the advent of the famous humorist, Will Rogers, Bud was often referred to as the "Will Rogers" of the Hacketts. He also used to be called the "Diamond in the Rough," as he was not much interested in polish or the conventions of society. He always delighted in calling me "gentleman George," which I accepted as a compliment, being a bit more inclined toward the aesthetic. Bud had a wide acquaintance and was highly respected by all who knew him. He will long be remembered.

(Fifth generation)

CHILDREN OF MARTHA HACKETT VAIL

GORDON VAIL, son of W. J. and Martha Hackett Vail, was born June 1, 1902. While yet a child he went to Montana with his parents and grew up there. He later went to Portland, Oregon, where he engaged in salesmanship. In 1928 he married Alice Goodrich. A daughter was born to them, Patricia Ann, August 7, 1930. Gordon is now deceased.

ROSS HACKETT VAIL, born September 19, 1903; died May 18, 1943 at Vancouver, Oregon. On May 11, 1925 he married his cousin, Erma Prentice and to them three children were born: Helen Elizabeth, 1925; Romona Ann, 1927; Donald Ross, 1930. All were born at Portland where Ross was engaged in retail meat business until his death. Ross was a very good and capable man and a success in his business altho he was badly handicapped by rheumatism, for several years. He was a devoted husband and father and a staunch Christian; the Latter Day Saints being the church of his choice. Helen married Hale Whiting in Portland, Oregon, October, 1946. A daughter Sally Cathleen was born to them. Ramona married Chester Gregory in May, 1948 in the chapel of the Graceland College, Lamorie, Iowa.

AUDREY VAIL, born October 5, 1904. On May 24, 1924 she married Joseph L. Grice, in Montana where they have continued to reside, except for a few years in Oregon and California. They have two children: Kieth Lawrence, and Lorraine, born December 19, 1927. Now reside at Rollins, Montana. Lorraine married Ed Learn, they have one daughter.

LESLIE FRANKLIN VAIL, born January 18, 1907, August 17, 1932. He married Erna E. Shorman at Portland. To them three children were born: Lois Marie, February 27, 1933; Joan Ruth, May 12, 1935; Carol, June 25, 1941. Leslie has been a railway telegrapher for many years. They now reside in Portland.

GERTRUDE DEFORREST VAIL, was born September 20, 1909 at Lamoni, Iowa. On May 24, 1931 married Ernest Webberly at Portland. He was born in Ohio, October 28, 1906. They purchased a tract of timberland near Camas, Washington product from which they have disposed of to good advantage while developing it into a farm. They have four children: Maryls Joyce, born March 15, 1934; Ann LaVon, born August 31, 1937; Winona Rose, born October 8, 1939; Martha Lyndell, born December 17, 1942.

VIDA VIVIAN VAIL, born February 11, 1911 at Lamoni, Iowa. Was married to Oliver Elmer Kimball April 2, 1933. Children born to them follow: Richard Oliver, born March 5, 1934 at Minneapolis, Minnesota - died January 28, 1935, Minneapolis; James Walter, born December 4, 1935, Portland; Theodore Mark, born August 10, 1937; Evelyn Gail, born February 8, 1939. The Kimballs reside in Rollins, Montana.

WILMA ANN VAIL, born in Montana December 5, 1915; She is married to Walter Becker and resides in Portland, Oregon. They have one child, Walter Jr.

JAMES VAIL, born in Montana January 10, 1920. He was in Germany in World War II. There he married Hilda Haskops. They returned to the U.S.A. - lived in Chicago until 1949 - when they went to Portland, Oregon.

(Fourth generation).

LAURA EVA HACKETT BURGESS

Laura Eva, daughter of Frank and Ann Hackett was born at North Freedom, May 16, 1882. After finishing the local schools she attended Graceland College, at Lamon, Iowa, and the State Teachers College at Whitewater, Wisconsin in preparation for teaching, which she followed for several years in Wisconsin and Minnesota.

At Richville, Minnesota, where she was then making her home with her sister, Mrs. Prentice, she was married to Vernon Burgess. They purchased a farm near Richville and proceeded to develop it. With high ambition and with visions of what could be made of the fine location and excellent soil she did more than her share, in the few years allotted to her, to achieve, in part, what she had set out to do.

The house on the place was of logs and of considerable age, but I will always remember how tidy and well arranged was the interior, the friendly atmosphere which pervaded it always, and the sweet music of the rainfall on the unceilinged roof, so neatly papered with sheets from magazines, with pictures well selected and advantageously placed for one to contemplate as they lay in bed. I well remember her fine garden too, in which she worked so hard to dislodge the quack-grass that persistent robber of the soil. She succeeded remarkably and always had a fine garden from which she canned, as well as supplying her table generously throughout the summer season.

Her fine poultry was another of her delights: White Plymouth Rocks, White Holland Turkeys and White Embden Geese, effected a white spread over the fields in autumn and caused the place to be known as the "White Feather Farm." This pleased me immensely since poultry was my business and I shall not forget the pleasure I had in an extended visit there in remodeling their old log barn into a very servicable hen house after they had erected a fine new barn for the good herd of dairy cows. The exact site for a new bungalow house had been selected and pretty spots had been selected with which to build a fireplace when building could be attempted. But the futility of all her plans and ambitions came to an end with sad and bitter disappointment when early in the summer of 1927 an operation disclosed that her trouble was of most serious nature and on August 20th took her from us.

Laura had always been robust, rather stout yet not over large, always cheerful with a radiance and personality which set her apart from the average. Her natural inclinations and training made her a real asset in the community and in boys and girls club work in which she was a leader. Due appreciation for all these services was shown when, on the day of her funeral, threshing and other farm work was suspended and the entire neighborhood assembled under the shade of wide spreading maples, on the lawn she had hoped to glorify, to pay their last respects; their great sorrow and deep affection to one who had meant so much to them.

It was in 1906 that Laura accompanied father on a trip to Boston and to Canada to visit our relatives there. She enjoyed it greatly and I deeply regret that she did not leave a written record of her trip as she had intended doing. That she was always devoted to the Hacketts and the Reunion is shown in a letter she wrote for the reunion in 1917, and a poem she had selected. These will be found in her own handwriting, along with letters and other items others have contributed, to be filed and kept along with the "Family Album." Quotations follow: Dated Richville, Minnesota, November 27, 1917.

"Sincere Greetings to all the Hacketts on Reunion Day. While I cannot be with you on the day held dear to all True Hacketts, still the Reunion Spirit hovers about me and in my thoughts I will be very close to you all on our blessed Reunion Day. I have found a little poem which, breathing of war is appropriate at this time; it expresses my sentiments and I am sure it likewise speaks for all who are unable to attend this year except thru their "Greetings." I hope our satisfaction thru the coming years may be those expressed in this poem."

"When wars have ceased, when armaments withdraw
To flaming furnaces to be melted there;
When martial lines dissolve by word of law
And flaunting flags are gathered from the air.

Oh, then will memory with subtle power
Review the scenes as vivid pictures flit
Across the mind; and oh, that happy hour --
If I have done my part of it.

When wars have ceased, when homeward they have come
Who glorified in their chance to serve with zest;
When no bowed heads bespeak the muffled drum,
Nor bugle's trumpet at their chief's behest;

Oh, then the past will mirror all the strife
within my heart, as pondering I sit,
And with that triumph I will face new life--
If I have borne the honored part of it.

Contributed with love by Laura Burgess.

ARTHUR JEREMIAH HACKETT

Arthur Jeremiah, seventh son born to Frank and Ann Hackett, and the last to be born in the "old log house" was born April 10, 1884. It was our grandmother Hackett who insisted on his second name. How well he lives up to it he alone can account. Being the youngest of us boys and likewise of happy disposition, he was also quite a favorite. He was always robust and grew to be the largest of the family, yet his stature and weight exceeded his brother Bud's by very little. His education was that of the common schools and then he took active part in the work on the farm for several years until I induced him to work for me in my meat market. He was apt in learning the trade and was later engaged in same at Baraboo and elsewhere for several years, but thought he saw a greater future in railroading and went with the C & N--W. at Baraboo as fireman.

There he met Miss Elizabeth Bloomer and they were married. She having relatives in Montana who gave glowing reports on future prospects for farming in that country, they were induced to go there to seek their fortune. Having worked diligently for several years to get established and equipped they were about to realize their first real reward when a terrific hail storm came along, just the day before the harvesting was to start, and not only drove their crops into the ground, a total loss, but did much damage to buildings and stock as well.

This finished them in Montana. They came back to Minnesota where they worked a rented farm for a time, then Art again took up his meat cutting trade in Minneapolis. But the west still held a strong urge for them and they finally went to Spokane, Washington where he secured work with the Great Northern R. R. and where they have resided since, quite apart from the rest of the family and without keeping in close enough contact to provide the information I would like to further record here. They have no children. In August, 1946 he came to visit his sister, Mary in Richville, Minnesota. His brothers, Billie and wife and Jake came from Wisconsin. They spent a most wonderful week together with little thought it would be the last. In October he went deer hunting near his home in Spokane, Washington. He seemed to be weak - wasn't able to bring his deer out of the woods. He went to the hospital was doing fine when all at once he slipped away into the great unknown. Age sixty two.

ETHEL MAE HACKETT BRONSON - Family-

Youngest of the eleven children of Frank and Ann Hackett, Ethel Mae was born at North Freedom, August 18, 1892 and died at Oakland, California, September 30, 1941. On July 2, 1912 she was married to Eli Bronson and to them five daughters were born: Ruth Laverne, Mildred Mae, Irene Lucille, Rose Elaine, and Betty Lou. All but Betty were born in Montana, the latter at Spokane, Washington.

Soon after marriage the Bronsons moved to Montana where they filed on government land and began farming near Andes. Her sister Martha's family and brother Arthur had settled in that locality but drouth and hail persisted for several years and they all decided to change to a more favored location. Ethel and husband were Latter Day Saints and at about this time he had been designated as a missionary and assigned a post at Glasgow, Montana. Later he was ordained a minister and filled charges at Portland, Oregon, Los Angeles, and San Francisco, California.

Ethel had received a college education, had taught school for a time and was well qualified for the duties she was to assume beside her husband. A natural leader from childhood, a lover of children she fitted well into Sunday School and Young Peoples' activities and thru untiring effort she won the highest esteem of all with whom she came in contact. She was much devoted to home and family and her ambition lead her beyond her strength. She was taken seriously ill early in 1941 and passed to her reward on September 30th of that year. Her daughters were all married before her demise. Brief mentions follows:

CHILDREN AND GRAND CHILDREN OF ETHEL HACKETT BRONSON

Ruth L. married Ben Rolphe, October 11, 1930, Los Angeles, California.. He was born May 11, 1911, Los Angeles, California. Born to them: Bonnie Ruth, April 30, 1931 Benjamin Richard, June 19, 1932 at Los Angeles, R. Eli, born 1934, died same year at Yakima, Washington; Melda, born 1946.

Mildred married Gattther W. Young, May 14, 1939, Honolulu, H.I. She is a trained nurse, they now live in California. Two or three children born to them died at birth or in infancy. They have a daughter, Kathy, born 1948.

Irene Lucile married Leonard Olson, February, 1938. Born to them: Donald, November 29, 1938; Marlyn, April, 1940. (record incomplete)

Rose Elaine, married Albert V. Kelley, September 4, 1936. He was born June 15, 1912 at Oakland, California. Three children; Albert Jr., born January 7, 1937; Robert E., born September 29, 1940, Oakland, California and a daughter.

Betty Lou married Arnold V. Seagraves, June 25, 1940, Reno, Nevada. They have two children: Susanne Marie, born January 20, 1943, Oakland, Arnold Jr., born in 1944.

(Third generation)

PARSHALL TERRY HACKETT

Youngest son of Samuel and Dency Hackett, to attain maturity, was born in Illinois, November 8, 1844 and died April 3, 1932. At the age of five he came to Wisconsin and lived at home, helping develop the "Hackett Homestead" until he was eighteen. That was in 1862, when he accompanied his parents on an overland, covered wagon trip west, hoping to find health for an ailing brother in the higher altitudes, and also to visit his mother's people then living in Utah. On their return trip two years later, which was made by same mode of travel, they stopped over to visit his sister Hannah, (Mrs. Gile) who lived at Colorado Springs, Colorado. While there "P. T." investigated the much publicized silver and gold mining explorations and operations and decided he would like to take a fling at it, but first had to accompany his parents back home.

He returned to Colorado at once and took on odd jobs for a time while getting acquainted. He traveled over considerable country, even into New Mexico but the end of the rainbow was always far ahead. After months of search for the opportunity he sought, he became disillusioned and returned to Wisconsin to settle down, believing there was no better country anywhere. He bought a forty acre tract, the north west corner of which is now the center of intersection of the main streets in North Freedom. His brother John already owned the eighty acres adjoining on the west and this placed three of the four forties cornering at this intersection, in Hackett ownership, hence its early name, "Hackett's Corners." Hops was the popular cash crop at that time and Parshall ventured into it. He built a house on his land for his bride to be, Miss Jennie Elliott, whom he married in 1868. A daughter, Ida, was born to them and the young wife and mother died a year later.

My first recollection of "Uncle P.T." was when I was only a small boy and he the station agent for the newly arrived railroad, the most wonderful thing in the world to me at that time. He was then still a young man, and I remember well how "dressed-up" he always looked. I did not see him many times at the depot, but I was at their home frequently and spent much time playing with Ida, his eldest daughter, and with our cousin Mamie.

After they moved away from North Freedom I saw him only on his infrequent visits to North Freedom, until Cousin Mamie and I went to Bloomer to be present at Ida's wedding, about 1888. It was a home wedding and Ida was a beautiful bride. In the

evening after the wedding we went to a dance hall in the village which Uncle Parshall had secured, and he furnished the music with his violin as he was expert at it. It was but a small party and we had a wonderful time.

In 1872 he married Miss Hattie Lamport, had part of his land platted and sold many lots. By 1877 he had resigned as station agent, sold his North Freedom property and moved to Bloomer, Wisconsin. Two years later, when the government opened mail service between Chippewa Falls and Bloomer, he took a contract to carry the mail over this route for four years. The country being newly opened, roads were very poor and weather often very bad so that at the termination of his contract he was glad to give it up.

With the funds he had saved he launched into the grocery business in Bloomer. Things were going nicely with him and his growing family when in 1884 an unprecedented flood came down a creek near which his store was located, and virtually wiped out his business. Discouraged and disheartened, but with plenty of help growing up, he decided to try country life on a small farm he owned in Cook Valley, a few miles out of Bloomer, but found it hardly sufficient to carry the expense of raising a large family. He disposed of his farm and returned to Sauk County where he resided for several years. Not finding suitable occupations for himself and family, however, he returned to a home he owned in Bloomer. Later he homesteaded and developed forty acres known as Happy Hollow, where the family gave their time to the care of bees, poultry and garden crops, including small fruit. Here the ten children grew to maturity, married and dispersed, and his wife Hattie died after being afflicted with total blindness for several years.

I do not remember his first wife, but "Aunt Hattie" was one of the loveliest of women, and about the most indulgent and painstaking mother I have ever known. She came from an excellent family, had high ideals and was talented. Although she could not see the light of day during her later years her countenance reflected the "sunshine" to a remarkable degree, and she was never known to complain about her misfortune. She was much loved by everyone, and always entered into social relations with both family and friends with as much zest as any of the rest of us, and seemingly enjoyed herself as well. She spent her last years at Bloomer, which was always home to the family, and is buried there with Uncle "P.T." beside her.

I always remember how kind and indulgent a father Uncle "P.T." was, and how devoted his children were to him. He was always proud of the fact that four of his six girls, Ida, Minnie, Fern and Clarella, became school-teachers. He spent his last days with his youngest daughter Clarella (Mrs Juno Johnson), and died at her home in Zumbrota, Minnesota.

(Fourth generation)

CHILDREN OF PARSHALL TERRY HACKETT

To Parshall and his first wife, Jennie Elliott Hackett, one daughter, Ida, was born, 1869, died 1902. Nine children by second marriage to Hattie Ann Lamport Hackett are: Minnie Effie, Claude Ernest, DeWitt Clinton, Ray LeRoy, Carlyle Knolton, Jennie Louise, Winnie Prudence, Fern Ione, Clarella Fayne.

Ida was but a year younger than I and as children we played together a great deal, together with our cousin Mamie, who was about Ida's age. They were devoted to each other and both were lovely girls. At the age of nine, Ida went with her parent to Bloomer, Wisconsin to reside and we did not see her again until in December, 1888. Mamie and I went to Bloomer to be present at Ida's wedding. She married Charles Hawley and to them two children were born, Gerald and Clare L. Hawley was employed by the C7N-W. R. R. and they took up residence there soon after marriage. I visited them there in 1892. Some years later they were divorced. Her death was tragic resulting from the explosion of an oil stove, in St. Paul, Minnesota where she was then residing. Of her children I have no definite information except that Gerald resides at Superior, Wisconsin and is in business there.

MINNIE EFFIE HACKETT, daughter of Parshall and Hattie Hackett was born at North Freedom, February 3, 1893 and died at Duluth, Minnesota, March 9, 1918. In she married DeWitt Southwick. To them were born the following: Louise, Kathryn, Charles, Mildred and Marjorie. (see fifth generation).

The Southwicks were a fine family, I was making Duluth in 1917-18 and visited

them several times. They had a prosperous restaurant business in Duluth and were doing well. Minnie's untimely death in 1918 was a great shock to us all.

CLAUDE ERNEST HACKETT was born October 11, 1874, eldest son of Parshall and Hattie Hackett. He grew to manhood and secured his schooling at Bloomer, Wisconsin. He was a bright, ambitious boy. At the time of the "gold rush" to the Klondyke he followed the crowd in pursuit of a fortune, but he never got back to his home and people. The circumstances of his death are not known. He died December 19, 1893, but nineteen years of age.

DEWITT CLINTON HACKETT, born March 17, 1877, the year the family moved to Bloomer, Wisconsin and with fine personality he was always looking for greater opportunities than his local surroundings afforded. In his pursuit for greater things he became interested in oil fields in Montana, and spent much time and effort in their development, but was not rewarded with the fortune he had hoped for. For many years, he has been operating a garage at Chisholm, Minnesota. He married Camilla Stoltenburg and to them were born: Clinton, Harriet Marie and Terry. He later married Jennie Norleen and to them were born twins: DeWitt and Deyonee, October 3, 1934.

RAY LEROY HACKETT born January 9, 1879; died in September, 1936. He married Jennette Renwick. They lived in Montana. As a boy of thirteen, Ray came to live with us while he attended school at North Freedom. He was a fine boy to have in the home, was studious and ambitious. He had developed into a fine appearing man when he came to attend his father's funeral in 1932. We had not seen him in the intervening years.

Of Carlyle, Louise and Winnie I have not details except that Winnie died in 1911; Louise married Wm. J. McDonald of Canada and is now deceased.

FERN IONE HACKETT, born September 17, 1886. Married Chas. C. Kimball, Montana, 1907. Fern taught school for many years in Wisconsin and Montana, even after her marriage. They live on a large ranch, many miles from railroad service. To this union four children were born: Claude C., Harriet Ione, Judith, and Ralph H. Now Superintendent of Schools at Miter City.

CLARELLA FAYNE HACKETT, born April 8, 1891. On April 17, 1912 she married Juno M. Johnson and to them four children were born: Deyonne Ione, Beverly Ardene, Juneau Mentor and Adeen Caroline. This is another fine family the Hacketts are proud to claim. (Details elsewhere) The family have resided at Sand Creek, Wisconsin, where he owned and operated a mill; at Willow River where they owned and operated a store; at Zumbrota, Minnesota, where they also had a mill. Juno is an ingenious fellow, frugal and ambitious. During the period of World War II they have resided in Detroit where he has been employed at a war plant. They still reside there.

Clarella has been a real asset to every community in which they have lived. Well educated, possessing musical talent and a fine voice she has given freely of her time and talent in church and social work in her communities. As a wife and mother her record is of the best. She has been much devoted to her children, particularly to their one son who lost his life in his country's service during the war. It was a great shock to the family and all but crushed his mother. I am happy to have had such pleasant connections with this family.

(Fifth and Sixth generations)

PARSHALL HACKETT FAMILY
(Children of Minnie Effie Hackett Southwick)

Louise Southwick Vrooman, Children: Robert, born December, 1920; James, born August 29, 1930.

Kathrine Southwick Oestreich, Children: James, born March 24, 1933; Charles Southwick, son, Jack, born 1942, Mildred Southwick McGough, Children: Sue, born March 28, 1935; Donell, born August 27, 1937, Marjorie Southwick Pond, Children: Patricia, born September 6, 1940; Barbara, born November 12, 1937,

(Children of DeWitt C. Hackett)

Clinton, Harriet Marie, Terry, DeWitt & Deyonee.

(Children of Fern Hackett Kimball)

Claude C., daughter Judith Ann; Harriet Ione, married Ernest Wyttenhove, October, 1929, Children: Fern E. Claire Marie, Margaret J., Judith Kimball, Ralph Kimball.

(Children of Clarella Hackett Johnson)

Deyonne Johnson Kjos, Children: Barbara Ann, born January 1, 1940, Beverly Ardene Johnson, Children: (Halvorson) Herbert Russell, born August 18, 1940, David Allen, born October 26, 1943, Juneau Mentor Johnson, born April 11, 1919 - died February 11, 1943, Adeen Caroline Johnson, born February 19, 1923.

Mentor was an outstanding young man and ambitious to succeed. He was a graduate of a Minneapolis College. He answered Uncle Sams call for service in World War II enlisting in the Army. He was killed by a land mine _____.

(Third generation)

JAMES HACKETT AND FAMILY

James Hackett, eldest son and child of John and Elizabeth Wilson Hackett, was born in Ontario, Canada, July 3, 1836; died at Whitewater, Wisconsin, June 29, 1904. He came to Whitewater from Canada with his parents, arriving here October 29, 1840. He grew up on the original homestead his father obtained from the government sharing all the hardships and privations incident to pioneer life in this new timbered country out of which he helped develop a fine farm, which in later years became his own.

On November 16, 1856 he married Sarah Mellisa Bortle, born in Albany, New York, November 16 1837, died April 16, 1907. Both died on the original homestead, on "Hackett's Island" where they had spent most of their married life. To this union the following were born: Elizabeth, born at Whitewater, September 4, 1858, died Milwaukee, Burial at Whitewater, June 15, 1935 - Almeda Medora, "Dora" - born Milwaukee, February 7, 1860, died Delavan, Wisconsin, June 3, 1910 - Lyman, born February 10, 1862, died November 23, 1910 - William, born May 4, 1864, died January 19, 1946 - Etta - Wood - born March 1, 1866, Elsie Rienza, -Campbell- born April 8, 1869, died September 21, 1943, Loyal, born February 13, 1871, Jennie, born 1873, died in infancy, from scalding in pail of hot water, Pearl, -Castle- born June 30, 1876, died March 3, 1938.

James Hackett was a highly respected citizen of the Whitewater community, had a reputation of being one of the best of farmers in both the management of his farm and his business affairs. Always kind and congenial in his family and ever ready to assist a neighbor or to make liberal contributions for the upbuilding of his neighborhood and in the support of church and worthy causes. The following is copied from his obituary in the Whitewater paper:- "Mr. Hackett was a man well known in the community for his industrious habits. Few farmers of the community used better judgement or did more systematic work in their farm operations than did he. He was a kind and loving father and husband, a charitable and generous neighbor and was greatly respected by all who knew him in a business way. He will be greatly missed by those who knew him best." His personality and every expressed characteristic, fully justified this quotation.

He took a keen interest in the Hackett Reunion and for many years he was a regular attendant. I recall how keenly we all looked forward to the coming of "cousins Jim and Mellisa," his wife. They always planned to have a few days to "visit 'round" after the Reunion. The results of such devotion to family relationships produce lasting benefits.

UNCLE "JIM" AS I KNEW HIM
By Belle Scholl

James Hackett, who was always "Uncle Jim" to me, was born in Ontario, Canada and came to Whitewater with his parents, his sister Elizabeth, my mother, affectionately called "Lib" and with John Jr. his brother. He was but four years old when they landed at Whitewater the fall of 1840 so knew what pioneer life was from the start. He grew up on the family homestead on "Hackett's Island" and did his full share in making a fine farm of it, until in 1856 he married Melissa Bortle. For the

first few years of their married life they lived on rented farms at Milton and John-Johnstown, Wisconsin but in the late 60's came back and bought the original homestead and continued to live there until both passed away, he in 1904 and Aunt Melissa a few years later. Most of their eight children were born on this farm and all grew to maturity there. Uncle Jim was always very proud of his ownership of his father's farm and we had hoped it would always remain in the Hackett name but circumstances decreed otherwise as it was sold later to settle the estate. It is today a very fine farm and was the first to be taken up and improved on what was for years known as "Hackett's Island."

James Hackett was widely known as a good farmer, was a quiet, unassuming man, very neighborly and was much interested in the community, active in the church and was clerk of the Island School for many years, taking great interest in it, and in the boys and girls of the community. It was he who was always called on by his neighbors in need or distress and he never failed to respond to their call. I well remember that when the weather was bad, rain, snow or extreme cold we could always count on him being on hand at time for school to close, with wagon or sleigh and with blankets aplenty to protect all the children as he would take them to their homes. I now look back over all the kindly and helpful things he did and the better realize what a real asset he was to the community. I also recall how much all the neighbors thought of "Aunt Melis" how much she loved her flowers and plants and the number she had of them, both winter and summer. In those early days not much time or space was given to flowers which make her flowers the better remembered by the neighbors, for she was one who was never too busy to take time for neighborly visits to her friends, especially those who were ill or in trouble and always had a fine bouquet of flowers to take along to cheer and to express her deep friendship and affection. Both her visits and her flowers were much appreciated.

I remember how thrilled I used to be to sit and listen to the delightful tales Uncle Jim and the others used to tell of the good times they used to have along with the hard work they had to do. Those were the days of large families and likewise the days of "husking bees", spelling schools, country parties and dances to which all the young folks of the neighborhood went. In our vicinity, a goodly number of them were Hacketts and what good times they did used to have. In these days, too, every wedding meant a "shivaree," noisy and full of pranks but usually very enjoyable. However, there was one in our neighborhood which turned out otherwise which I must relate. One of the neighbor boys got married, who had always been one of the crows on such occasions, he sent out word that if they came to shivaree him he would shoot them. The boys, of course, thought it only a bluff so they got together and went just the same. The place being near where father and mother lived and at which a cousin, Abram Jr. was staying at the time, he was one of the crowd. The boys would take a turn at the shivaree then come back to our place. After this had been repeated a couple of times, the bridegroom came out and told the boys that if they came back again he would shoot, but they were not to be "bluffed," they did go back and he did shoot, killing one of them, young Will Hamilton, a very dear boy the son of our highly esteemed neighbors, the David Hamiltons. My mother had pleaded with the boys to give heed to the threat and not go back but you know how boys are, and the result was the first real tragedy to happen in this quiet and peaceful neighborhood. All the neighbors felt terribly about it.

Uncle Jim was very fond of the Hackett Reunion and a great booster for it among the Whitewater Hacketts. In those days the reunion was always held at North Freedom and on Thanksgiving Day. I don't think he missed attendance from the time he first attended until his death. During those years, whenever he would drive in our yard or come walking across the field, our farms joined, his salutation would always be, "Hurrah! for North Freedom," this regardless of the time of year it was; and again when time for the Reunion approached he would make the rounds to see how many of the relatives were preparing to make the trip. They made it worth while by remaining at North Freedom several days to visit around among the numerous relatives and for the home get-to-gethers they used to plan there. I think our first attendance at the Reunion was in or about 1894. The largest number to ever have attended from here was fifteen, until the time was changed to June, when twenty three from here attended this first summer meeting. Those who were always sure to go were: Uncle Jim and Aunt Melissa, my mother "Lib" Pollard, Julia, Dora, and often I was with them and less often were Will and wife Lyman, Loyal, cousin "Libbie" and many others who had attended once or more. In later years many others have frequently attended. Uncle Jim had two brothers, John and William who were most congenial in their associations and, likewise with their cousins, "Uncle Abraham's" sons, William, Jacob, Abram and Joseph, all grew up together with common interests and with friendly cooperation which has been reflected in later generations.

There is one other thing I want to mention about Uncle Jim. He was not only neat and careful in his personal appearance, orderly about his premises and systematic in his farming operations, but he also kept careful notes, dates, etc. of his family and his operations. I knew of this and had expected to get his records for later use but too late, found that the book containing them had been destroyed along with many other things he had cherished, when the final clearing up of accumulated sundries were disposed of. How glad I would have been to have that book at this time.

In the fall of 1894 an event took place on the "Island" I shall always remember; an event that has since, been very dear to all the descendants of John Sr. and Eliza his wife, and this was arranged and managed by Uncle Jim. It was to celebrate the 54th anniversary of the arrival of the family from Canada, which then consisted of the parents, James, (Uncle Jim) Elizabeth, (Lib), my mother and John Jr., the latter just one year old. The gathering was held on the original homestead and on the date October 29th, they arrived at Whitewater. It being too late in the season for out doors picnics, attendance was confined to this one family, only because there was not room inside to take care of all the Hacketts of the various families. As it was the accommodations were taxed to the limit. I do not know the exact number but there must have been or more. A table extending the length of a very large room was beautifully decorated and bountifully supplied with the many good eats which Aunt Melissa and the other ladies had prepared. Then Uncle Jim came forward with something I had never seen before, - a roasted pig complete, on a great platter. Served with all the trimmings it was a banquet fit for a king and is still happily remembered by many who were present. Uncle Jim, then owner of the homestead, took great pride in being able to arrange this memorable event in honor of his worthy parents and to impress on posterity the immeasurable value of close family association and tradition, and he being the eldest of the children of John and Eliza, it was indeed fitting that he should be the one to promote this commendable observation.

Uncle Jim was a man who did not covet public office or public favor. I doubt if there was another man in the entire community who did more to promote the general interest than he did and did it so quietly. Aunt Melissa did her full share in the same manner. They had both the respect and affection of all their neighbors.

(Fourth generation)

CHILDREN OF JAMES AND MELISSA BORTEL HACKETT

For information on this family I have had to rely on record furnished by Belle Scholl and much of it is copied from her data. All the children of James and Melissa except Elsie, the youngest, were born on the John Hackett farm, on "The Hackett Island" in the log house built by James' father. All completed their schooling in the country school except Loyal and Elsie, who got the added advantage of attending high school at Whitewater. This family, as a whole, was a potent factor in the development of their community, having kept close to the original occupation of man, that of agriculture, but they were likewise interested in cultivating the intellectual and social qualities, essential to greatest service.

ELIZABETH, born September 4, 1858, died June 15, 1935. On January 3, 1882 she married her third cousin, William J. Hackett, North Freedom and to them one daughter was born. The marriage did not prove a success but she never remarried. She kept the daughter, Daisy, with her; she returned to the home of her father, James Hackett, where she took up again, her place in the family and did much toward the development of the home and the farm while Daisy grew to womanhood. Later, "Libbie" as she was always known, became a practical nurse, serving in that capacity in many of the best homes in the city and community. Her kind and gentle manner and her great patience endeared her to all who knew her and her service for her aunt "Lib" Pollard, during her last illness, is remembered with deepest appreciation. She as one of the family, for she had spent much time in this home and had endeared herself to all members of the family. Altho much older than Belle, she says "I always regarded her as one of my dearest relatives." She possessed the Hackett assets of poise, promptness of decision and action and kindly consideration. She spent her latter years with her daughter, passing away at her home in Milwaukee, with burial at Whitewater.

ALNEDA MELDORA, always known as "Dora," was born February 7, 1860. She died at Delavan, June 3, 1910. She married her cousin, Will Pollard, December 3, 1882. Dora attended several of the earlier Reunions and is remembered for her pleasing personality and her winning ways. A lovely young lady. She was a true Hackett, devoted to home and family, a kindly neighbor most highly respected. Further data with her husband's, Will Pollard.

LYMAN HACKETT, born February 10, 1862, died November 23, 1910. He married Cora McChesney, May 24, 1892. They had one daughter, Lottie. They moved to a farm soon after they were married and remained there until Cora died, after which, Lyman, with his daughter went back to his father's home, where they lived for several years, then he bought another farm, moved onto it with his daughter and his sister Libbie. There he lived until he passed away. Lyman was a carpenter by trade, and a very good one, his services always in demand. However, he would always go to help his father when needed. Belle says of him: "He was good natured and very likable. He was of the carefree type, loved to fish and hunt and found time to do it." As a boy he had spent several winters at the Pollard farm home, doing chores while attending school. He became as one of the family, therefore Belle knew him very well. I also remember him well as he had attended several Reunions at North Freedom. He was a man of good stature and fine personality, an obliging neighbor and well respected.

WILLIAM S. HACKETT, was born May 4, 1864, died January 19, 1946. In 1896 he was married to Elizabeth McChesney. They had one son, Lawrence, born _____. "Bill" was a familiar figure at the earlier Hackett Reunions and was much liked by us all. Very quiet and unassuming, he was nevertheless keen and well versed in current events. He was always a home boy, did not marry until he was nearly thirty so did a great deal in clearing and developing the country. He was strong and industrious and worked out a great deal, for neighboring farmers as his services were always in demand. He lived at his father's until he married, then went to live with his wife's folks, but continued to work out until his health failed him. He was a true "son of nature" and much devoted to the land. He had a splended personality, was rather short, broad shouldered and well proportioned. With heavy black hair and long black mustache and with sharp, dark eyes with heavy lashes, he made a striking appearance. Belle says: "He will be remembered as a dependable, hard working man who took the hard jobs and accomplished them. While his services were humble they were highly essential and none more honorable."

ETTA HACKETT STERNS WOOD, born March 1, 1866. Is living in Mason City, Iowa. In 1882 she married Will Sterns and to them a son, Philip A., was born September 8, 1883. This union did not prove a success and on May 21, 1895 she married Devillow Wood, of Iowa and went to Mason City, where she has since lived. They raised a family there but details are lacking. Her husband died in 1944. Her son Philip Stearns has been a great help and comfort to her as Harley and Grace, by her later marriage, who live near her. During the intervening years between her marriages, Etta worked out in many of the better homes at Whitewater, for like her brother Bill her services were much in demand and for the same reasons. She was one of the Whitewater group to attend the Reunion in 1894 at North Freedom and has attended later Reunions. She appears to have kept up the Hackett tradition in her effort to have made the world better for having lived in it.

ELSIE HACKETT CAMPBELL, born April 8, 1869, died September 21, 1943. She was most like her mother in both looks and ways; good natured and with sunny disposition. She stayed at home to help until her services were not longer necessary there, then went out to work in some of the better homes in the city. She did not marry early and that was about the only kind of employment girls could get in those days, but that was essential too, and she was well qualified for it, for like her sisters, Libbie and Cora, she was a splended cook. On March 1, 1902 she married Frank Campbell, a steady, hardworking man, and they, together, worked out on farms for a few years then rented farms for a time, then moved to Whitewater. To them two sons and a daughter was born: Elmer, September 22, 1904 and Clinton, August 27, 1907. The daughter was born in 1906 but lived only a few months. Elsie attended Reunions at North Freedom and Whitewater and enjoyed them much. Her cheerful disposition and sunny ways made her an asset to any gathering she attended. She will be remembered for her cheerful ways.

JENNIE HACKETT, born in 1873, died a tragic death from scalding in a pail of hot water her sister Libbie had prepared to mop the floor.

LOYAL HACKETT, born February 13, 1873. He still lives on his farm near Whitewater. He married Miss Maggie Hunt, March 24, 1909 and it is on the farm she owned that they live. They have no children but they are a congenial, happy couple and like their country home. Loyal was the first of the James Hackett children to get more than a country school education and even while attending high school in Whitewater, he lived at home, driving back and forth each day, his sister Pearl with him. After his high school days he continued to live at home and help on the farm but when his brother Lyman came back to live there, after the death of his wife, Loyal's ser-

vices were not needed and he went to work for his uncle, James Pollard. After his father's death, he went back to help his mother. After his marriage he went to live on the farm where he still resides. Belle says of him, "Loyal was always a fine, dependable boy and as he grew to manhood, he retained the same character. Like his father, he never used strong drink or tobacco in any form. He was very active in our young people's society and was once its President. The Hackett and Pollard farms joined and it was but a few minutes walk between our homes. We young folks spent much time together at one place or the other and what jolly times we did have; popping corn or going to the cellar for apples, of which there were always many barrels in season. As Loyal grew to manhood he resembled his brother Will, being rather short and having the black mustache. His hair, once so black is still abundant but snow white and beautiful. Loyal is still young at heart and often invites young folks and others to their comfortable home for picnics, etc." His wife, highly esteemed by all, gladly cooperates with him in these activities. At North Freedom we got to know Loyal well as he attended the Reunion there many times and is still a booster for the Reunion and the Hacketts.

PEARL HACKETT CASTLE, youngest child of James and Melissa Hackett was born June 30, 1876. She married Elbert Castle, April 17, 1898. She died March 3, 1938, and Elbert died May 31, 1944. They had one child, Erwin, born May 5, 1899. The Castles were quite regular attendants at the Reunion at North Freedom and Wonewoc and we came to know them well and liked them much. During her youth and young womanhood, Pearl was one of the more active promoters of social doings in her community, a close friend of Belle Pollard's and they were together a great deal. She served as secretary of their Literary Society and "did her work well." Like her sister Etta she resembled her mother's side of the house, with light hair and light complexion. After finishing high school she stayed at home, helping her mother, until she was married. She was very competent and a community asset wherever she was. The Castles moved to Coloma right after their wedding, remaining there on a farm for a few years, then moved back to Whitewater, purchasing, from her brother Lyman's estate, the forty acre farm which had originally belonged to her grandfather Bortle. The log house he had built was still on it and Belle says: "I was greatly impressed with the way Pearl had everything so well fixed up and so nicely arranged. It was really a dream." However, they later built a good frame house and they thoroughly enjoyed its comforts and likewise the associations supplied by a church near by. Pearl's health had been poor after locating here, but kind neighbors and relatives, afforded much happiness to the end of her days. Her ideals were always high and she passed from this life, lamented.

CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF ETTA HACKETT WOOD

HARLEY EMBER WOOD, born May 3, 1898, m. Lottie Atkinson, June 25, 1920, Children: Lottie Marie, born May 21, 1901; Betty Marie, born October 21, 1921; Arlene Janette, born October 11, 1923; Jean Evelyn, born June 4, 1929.

VERNA VIOLA CARY, born March 1901, m. Earl M. Cary 1923, died June 1930.

GRACE MARIE, born July 26, 1905, m. Frank B. Lee, December 23, 1925, Children: Verlynn Joan, born March 7, 1931; Jerry Allen, born January 30, 1940, (farmers)

BETTY MARIE WOOD, born October 21, 1921, m. R. H. Bebee, November 9, 1941. Children: Judith Marie, born July 1, 1942; Thomas Joe, born July 23, 1944; Marilyn Jean, born August 16, 1945.

(Third generation)

ELIZABETH HACKETT POLLARD

Fannie Elizabeth Hackett was born near Toronto, Canada, April 6, 1838, eldest daughter of John and Eliza Hackett. She came with her parents to Whitewater, Wisconsin, and spent her long and useful life in this vicinity and city. She grew to womanhood on her father's farm on what was known as "The Island," unbroken wilderness when the family first settled there, hence she came to know the hardships of pioneer life. On January 3, 1855 she married James Pollard, a young man born in England, 1830, who came to America for the advantages it afforded. They at first rented a farm and later, bought a very good farm in the vicinity of "The Island" which has, for many years been known as the "Pollard Farm." It is still one of the best farms in that community and has always been outstanding for its buildings and other improvements. It was in 1865 this farm of 200 acres was purchased, but the



James Pollard



Elizabeth Pollard

buildings then on the place not being satisfactory, a complete new set of buildings were erected on the site of the present buildings. Three children had been born before this farm was purchased but all the others were born here and all grew to maturity on the big farm they helped in developing as they grew up. Children: William, born July 10, 1856, died June 11, 1908; m. Medora Hackett who died June 3, 1910; Charles, born July 15, 1860, died December 17, 1864; Babe, died in infancy; Alice, born November 19, 1865, died May 23, 1911, m. James Finn; Alfred, born February 4, 1868, m. Kathrine Buckley, March 7, ; Ella, born November 11, 1870, m. Edward Finn, December 24, 1891, died August 31, 1940; Joseph, born May 13, 1873, died April 28, 1892; Emma, born November 15, 1875, died September 15, 1891; Belle, born June 10, 1878, m. Henry Scholl, July 25, 1907.

Great sorrow and misfortune came to this family when, within eight months in 1891-92 three members of the family were called from earth by the Reaper death. A lovely and promising girl of sixteen, Emma died September 15, 1891; on March 13, 1892 James Pollard, husband and father died, and on April 28th Joseph, then approaching manhood, was taken from them. Only those of strong heart and great courage could have stood up under such a terrific blow, never-the-less "Lib" Pollard, noble wife and mother that she was, girded herself with supreme courage and with heaven implored strength, was able to carry on keeping the family together and maintaining the farm and further contributing her part to the upbuilding of the community. By this time the older children were married and establishing their own homes. With the help of her son Alfred, Lib worked the farm for one year following her husband's death, then with Belle, the youngest ready for high school, they moved to Whitewater where they remained for three years and rented the farm meantime. But with her heart and her greatest interests on the farm, they moved back on it and with hired help, then available, were able to carry on successfully for twelve years. Belle attended high school and Teacher's Normal at Whitewater. It was in March 1907 they moved back to Whitewater and on July 25th of that year, Belle married Mr. Henry Scholl, a young man of excellent standing and ability and associated with his father in the grocery business.

James Pollard was a progressive farmer and rated high in his community. He had taken an active part organizing and building a church, a better school house, a cheese factory and promoted other improvements in the community. Their family life was happy and their home a common meeting place for both old and young of the vicinity. This was in the days when community life meant much to all the people whose interests were demonstrated toward each other in acts of helpfulness.

The writer is indebted to Belle Scholl for most of the information found in the foregoing story of the Pollard family but the writer would not have done his duty if he did not make further comment from personal knowledge. I always regarded "Cousin Lib," as she was affectionately known to the family, as a beautiful woman of outstanding personality and of dynamic force. My impressions were formed on her several visits to attend our Reunions at North Freedom, on listening to her dis-

cussions with the older folks, and later on visiting her at her home in Whitewater. Like her father, she was quick of speech and prompt in action. Her interest in young folks outside her own family, and the things she did to entertain and make life pleasant for them attests to her sincere desire to do them good. The high esteem in which she was held by a wide circle of friends is further proof of her enduring worth. She was a staunch Christian and did much for the Methodist Church of which she was long a member both at their country church and in the city. Hers was a happy family and a happy and useful life.

CHILDREN OF ELIZABETH AND JAMES POLLARD

WILLIAM POLLARD, first child born to Elizabeth Hackett and James Pollard was born on a farm near Whitewater, July 10, 1856, died June 11, 1908. On December 3, 1882 he married his first cousin, "Dora" Hackett. They went to Appleton, Wisconsin immediately, where Will owned and operated a livery stable which made a profitable business for them for several years. Later, when the automobile began to take the place of the horse in that business, they sold out and moved back to Whitewater where they located on a farm. Later they purchased a farm near Delavan, Wisconsin where they purchased a farm and continued to reside until both passed away. Of the Pollard family, except Belle and her mother, Will and Dora are best remembered by the North Freedom Hacketts, as they attended Reunions and visited there, several times. They are remembered as a fine couple, jolly and interesting, fitting in well with our young folks. Will was rather tall and light complected, of the English type, like his father. Dora possessed the general Hackett characteristics to a high degree. Both were likable and dependable. Both had come up the hard way for they, too, were pioneers in a new country and helped, at their respective homes, in the development of homes and community, meanwhile enjoying the simpler pleasures, which are found only under such surroundings.

While residing at Appleton, three children were born to them: Mable, 1883; Ernest, 1886; and Grace, 1889. While living on the Whitewater farm, three others were born: Clara, 1891; Olive, 1896; Hazel, 1900.

They were a fine family and made much of home life, each devoted to the other's welfare and happiness. Both Will and Dora are buried in a Whitewater cemetery.

CHARLES POLLARD, was born July 15, 1860, died December 17, 1864. He died of diphtheria. He was a lovely child.

ALICE POLLARD, born November 19, 1865, died May 23, 1911. On October 17, 1888 she married James Finn and they settled down in Whitewater where Finn was employed at the Esterly Harvester Company factory. When this company moved its plant to Minneapolis, they moved there also but later returned to Whitewater where they engaged in farming. Alice was a small woman, of sandy complexion like her father. From childhood she had been troubled with asthma and consequently, never very rugged. But she was very ambitious, learned the dressmaking art and did much sewing for friends and neighbors. This work helped to extend her acquaintance and she enjoyed it all. To this union four children were born: Elva, February 22, 1892; Walter, July 28, 1895; Lola, February 21, 1898; Howard, November 5, 1904.

Alice was an indulgent mother and her children were much devoted to her. Her early passing at age forty six, was lamented by a host of relatives and friends.

ALFRED POLLARD, born February 4, 1868. On March 7, 1889 he married Kathrine Buckley. Three children were born to them: Leo, March 10, 1891; Arthur, died and Russell, February 4, 1896. Arthur lived only a few months.

A great worker, like his father, Alfred had lived and worked at home with his father continuing to work there for three years after his father's death. They later bought a farm at Millard, where they have since lived but are now renting the farm to their son Russell.

The Pollards celebrated their golden wedding on March 7, 1939. This was the first golden wedding celebrated in the family of John Hackett, Sr. and was made a great event, attended by many relatives and friends who contributed many tokens of value and conveying high esteem. Both Alfred and Kate are enjoying good health, age considered. However, they are not "old people" for they are both still active. Alfred choring about the farm and Kate spending her spare time sewing, as she learned dressmaking when young. They are a very happy family, four generations of them now.

Ella Pollard born November 7th, 1870. Died August 31, 1940. She married Ed. Finn December 24, 1891. Three children were born to them: Emma, Edward Jr. and Alma.

Ella was a real Pollard, light complexion and beautiful blonde hair. She remained at home helping her mother until her marriage, as there was much work in the home on such a large farm. Soon after their marriage, the Finns moved to Whitewater where he, with his sister ran a bakery for several years, but later they bought a farm near Koshkonong, near the big lake by that name. It was here their children were born. They farmed here until their health failed, they then sold the farm to their son, taking as part payment their son's home in town which consisted of a fine new house and a few acres of land. The new modern house, with large sun porch was much enjoyed by Ella and they liked the community as it was near a school, cheese factory and with a church just across the road. It was also good to be near their son and fine neighbors. Their daughter Emma, lived in Ft. Atkinson and Emma lived near that city, which was not far from them. They were a family of close ties and association and happy in their relationships. Edward Finn died May 22, 1945.

JOIE POLLARD born May 13, 1873. Died April 28, 1892. He was the first born in the new, large frame house on the Pollard farm. He showed much promise and was going to high school when he passed away. He had been a real asset to the life of the home community and was greatly missed. A terrible shock to his mother so soon after her husband's death.

EMMA POLLARD born November 15, 1875. Died September 15, 1891. Emma was the duplicate of her mother in looks, not having the light Pollard complexion. She had the blackest hair of any of the family and the snappy, dark eyes of her mother. She was a carefree girl, not much given to drudgery work, yet very active and in for all the fun going on. She was attending high school in Whitewater when taken with fatal illness, and had passed away only a few months before the death of her father and brother Joie. Altogether, it was one of the very saddest experiences of the entire Hackett family and it was only by great faith and indomitable courage that, Elizabeth Hackett Pollard, wife and mother, surmounted it all and was able to carry on.

BELLE POLLARD youngest of the Pollard children was born June 10, 1878. She married Henry Scholl, July 25th, 1907. She was the best known to the Hackett Reunion crowd, of any of the Whitewater relatives. Died October 12th, 1948. Her attendance began before her marriage, then by both her and her husband, and after his death, she has continued her attendance as often as possible. Only for her valued assistance, history of the Whitewater families, contained herein, would lack much in completeness. The story which follows is not intended, alone, a story of her personal history, but rather is meant to cover much that could not be obtained, otherwise, on relatives and community life they helped to create. We are happy to have so complete a picture. Her education included attendance at high school and the Whitewater normal Training School for teachers but after the death of her father she decided her greatest service would be back on the farm helping her mother and brother in their 200 acre farm. Of fine personality, a natural leader and ambitious to help in the promotion of community life, she had much to do in forming the character social events in the "Hackett Island" community and in the details following the reader will get a better idea of her sterling worth to that community pioneered by her people.

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY LIFE AMONG WHITEWATER HACKETTS By Belle Pollard Scholl

Much of the following is in Belle's own words and in quotations. Further comment is from conversations and data furnished by her.--

"Father and mother bought the farm, which has long been known as the "Pollard Farm", after they had lived on rented farms for a few years where my older brothers, Will and Charles had been born. On the farm that was to be our home, Alice, Alfred, Ella, Joie, Emma and I were born. You see we didn't have to go to the neighbors to find playmates. We spent a very happy childhood here and from here each in their turn married and went forth to establish homes of their own. In this day of the "small family" I often wonder if youngsters realize what they are missing, that we enjoyed. I believe, too, that the lessons we of necessity learned in co-operation, have been of great value to us in after years. Society, - a term we heard little of, - in our community was build up around the school and our country church. These furnished contacts for both old and young and all were interested in both. All our neighbors could be contacted at church on Sunday and most of them made it their business to practice their religion during the



Belle Pollard Scholl



Wives of Frank, John, Joel and Parshal Hackett

week. The lessons of the Sunday School made lasting impressions. It was a matter of deep regret when, in later years, it was found necessary to close our country church and transfer our church connections to the city of Whitewater churches, as nearly everyone did. Perhaps the best remembered and most enjoyed source of contact for us younger folks was that of our Literary Society. These were most active during the winter and often meant long sleigh rides, crowded in deep sleigh boxes, well-bedded with hay and supplied with plenty of warm blankets. Our meetings gave interesting programs of varied entertainment and the "debate" always afforded lively interest, and at the same time, developed talents which may never have been discovered otherwise. Other districts and towns in the county followed our example and organized like societies. We often went to visit their meetings and they made return visits to ours. These contacts broadened our acquaintance, made country living more attractive and valuable. Parents, as well as the young folks were interested in our meetings and often invited us to their homes for sociables, oyster suppers and to have good times in general. Even those who had no young folks often demonstrated their interest in our society, and in the young folks in general, by inviting us to their homes. I well remember what pleasure my mother got from having the young folks come to our home on such occasions for she was always young at heart and realized the young must have entertainment, and that it had better be in the home than at public places provided for the purpose.

I shall always remember an extraordinary event which took place at our home, because we had more room and were more conveniently located than any of the other Hackett families. The idea was conceived by Uncle Jim Hackett and was to be a gathering and picnic for all the Hacketts of the several local families, but before plans had been completed, someone suggested that the North Freedom Hacketts be invited, to which all heartily agreed. There would be too many to accommodate indoors and the possibility of rain had to be taken into consideration. The men decided to get a large tent from the armory in the city and set it up on mother's lawn which was ample for the purpose. One end of the long tent was set right up to our porch, which was to serve as a stage for our entertainment and likewise to make it convenient should it rain, which it did. The North Freedom cousins, who were present at this original Whitewater Hackett's Reunion follow: Mary Carpenter, Julia Gray, Tim and Fannie, John and Mary, Joel and Emily, Frank and Ann, Mary Hackett Prentice, Olive Wilkinson and Glen and Belle Cole. Before plans had been completed, several of our neighbors had been invited and to this day the occasion is often spoken of by them. We did have a grand time. (This was vouched for by all who attended from North Freedom.)

Another well remembered occasion when the North Freedom Hacketts came to Whitewater was in 1907 when the city had a general homecoming. Word was sent to North Freedom and about the same crowd came as mentioned above, but it also served as some special Hackett family get-together, with the usual happy times, and it was on this occasion that the group picture was taken shown herewith. By this time, many of the original settlers of the Island community had either passed away or had sold their farms to strangers and the whole atmosphere seemed to have changed, which while regretted, made it the easier for us to give up the farm and move to town. Within eight months in 1891-92, great sorrow came to us at the farm. My sister Emma passed away in September, 1891; in March following, father died and in April, brother Joie left us. It was a hard blow for us all but particularly so for mother, but with great courage she surmounted it. It was on July 25th I was married to Henry Scholl, who was associated with his father in the retail grocery business in the city. We lived with my mother and Aunt Julia lived with us too, most of the time. We were all very happy together. Our

two families were very friendly, my mother and Henry's mother had long been the best of friends and singularly, they passed away within a few hours of each other and were buried in a double funeral service. Following mother's death we moved into the large, double Scholl home on Center St. where I still live."

The story "Cousin Belle" has here told is very typical of the Hacketts as we know them and has appeared to have characterized them always. It is entirely fitting that it should have fallen to her to supply this picture of the Hacketts in the Whitewater district, for without her help it would have been difficult for me to have made record of our esteemed and beloved relatives who did so much in development of that section. Since the passing of "Cousin Jim," as he was known at North Freedom, Belle has been the Hackett agent in making contact with the Whitewater Hacketts, keeping us posted on the more important happenings to our relatives there and in urging attendance from there to our annual Hackett Reunion. Her willing help in promoting the best interests of the family can always be counted, and my appreciation for the help she has given me in this undertaking, is greater than I can here express. Here too, I want to pay special tribute to her good husband Henry Scholl, who was called from her so early in life by the Master he so faithfully served. Henry was a very likable man, kind and affectionate as a husband, highly honored and trusted by all who knew him. His ability and congenial ways made him a real asset in his business and his several trips to attend the Hackett Reunion at North Freedom endeared him to the Hacketts there. He was in failing health for several years but was loath to give up his activities, I well remember a short visit I made to see them only a year before his passing, how he so gladly drove me out in the country so Belle could point out to me the identical locations of the early homesteads, and recite the happenings which effected the transition of the locality from an unbroken forest to the fine farming country it presents today. By the unfortunate decree of fate, the Scholls were denied blessing of children, to make their happiness complete. Henry and his brother John were very close associates, each occupying half of the large double house before mentioned. At the passing of John's wife in 1923 he went to board with Henry and Belle and after Henry's death on August 17, 1930 he continued to board with Belle and to look after her interests. He attended the Reunion many times and was recognized as one of us. He had served in the Whitewater Post Office for many years. He was highly respected. He died June 24th, 1944 while the Hackett Reunion was in session at Wonegoc. He will be missed at these gatherings.-----

(5th Generation)

ELIZABETH HACKETT POLLARD FAMILY

CHILDREN OF WILLIAM POLLARD, son of James and Elizabeth Hackett Pollard was born on a farm near Whitewater, Wis. July 10, 1856. He married Meldora Hackett, (first cousin) daughter of James Hackett. Six children were born to them: Mable, born Nov. 24, 1883, m. Henry Aymar; Ernest, b. June 17, 1886, single; Grace, b. May 10, 1889, m. Ransom Woodard; Clara, b. Feb. 12, 1891, m. Clinton Barker, d. 1928; Olive, b. Nov. 5, 1896, m. Helmuth Glenzer, d. Aug. 26, 1931; Hazel, b. Sep. 18, 1900, m. Carl Walzner,

CHILDREN OF ALICE POLLARD, b. Nov. 19, 1865 near Whitewater, - Oct. 17, 1888 she married James Finn, a farmer. She died May 23, 1911. Four children were born to them: Elva, b. Feb. 22, 1892, m. Frank Fernholz; Walter, b. July 28, 1895, m.; Lola, b. Feb. 21, 1898, m. Ben Mc Namee; Howard, b. Nov. 5, 1904, m.

ALFRED POLLARD, born near Whitewater, Wisconsin, Feb. 4, 1868, m. Kathrine Buckley, Mar. 7, 1889. Occupation, farming. Children: Leo, b. Mar. 10, 1891, m. Emma Walski; Arthur; Russell, b. Feb. 4, 1896, m. Leona Moore.

ELLA POLLARD, b. Nov. 7, 1870 at Whitewater, Dec. 24, 1891, m. Edw. Finn. d, April 13, 1865. Occupation, farming. They had three children, Emma, b. April 12, 1892, m. John Hoenstein; Edward, b. Feb. 4, m. Olive Shefferl; Alma, b. Nov. 11, 1897, m. A. Cloute.

CHILDREN OF ALICE AND JAMES FINN

ELVA was born Feb. 22, 1892. She attended Whitewater High School. She married Frank Fernholz. They have one daughter, Alice, live on a farm near Delavan. Frank Fernholz deceased.

WALTER was born July 28, 1894. He married Hazel Mardelle Waid. They have one son, Walter, Jr., who was in service in World War II. They live in Charles City, Iowa.

LOLA was born Feb. 21, 1898. She attended Whitewater High School. She married Ben McNamee. They have three daughters: Fern, June and Adel. They reside in Janesville, Wisconsin.

HOWARD was born Nov. 5, 1904. He graduated from Whitewater College High School. He married in Chicago. They have two boys and they reside in Chicago.

CHILDREN OF ALFRED AND KATE POLLARD

LEO was born Mar. 10, 1891. He married Emma Wolske. They live near Turtle Lake. They have one daughter, Mildred. She graduated from a two year course at Whitewater State Teachers' College. She married Brilliantine. They have two daughters, Carol and Joyce.

ARTHUR died in infancy.

RUSSELL was born Feb. 4, 1896. He attended Elkhorn High School for two years. He married Leona Moore. They live on his father's farm at Millard. They have one son, James, a graduate of Elkhorn High School, who served in the Air Corps in the second World War. He married Irene Strong of Elkhorn in the fall of 1945.

CHILDREN OF ELLA AND EDWARD FINN

EMMA was born April 12, 1892. Stayed at home and helped her parents. Later, she married John Hohenstein. They live in Ft. Atkinson.

EDWARD, JR. was born Feb. 4, 1894. He was overseas in the first World War, being stationed in England. He married Olive Shifferl. They live on a farm at Koshkonong. They have six children: Verna, born Mar. 10, 1921, graduated from Ft. Atkinson High School and married Ralph Heitz; Sgt. Edward J., born Feb. 26, 1924, a marine in the second World War, married Helen Tippetts of Indian Head, Md.; Pfc. Woodard E., born Dec. 10, 1925, is in the Air Force; S 2/c Dean M., born Aug. 29, 1927 is in the navy. (The above three graduated from the Ft. Atkinson High School.) Shirley, born July 16, 1929, who graduates this year from the same school and Elaine, born Feb. 16, 1931, is a High School sophomore.

ALMA was born Nov. 11, 1897. She attended Ft. Atkinson High School and married Allchin Cloute April 14, 1921. He died Feb. 20, 1941. She lives with her sister Emma.

The above are members of a family that have worked for each other and were a great credit to their parents.

(Third generation-Whitewater)

JOHN HACKETT JR.

John Hackett Jr., son of John and Eliza Wilson Hackett was born in Ontario, Canada, Oct. 30, 1839. He was but one year of age when he came to Wisconsin with his parents, grew up on the family homestead on Hackett's Island and helped to make a farm of it, thus experiencing the disadvantages and hardships common to pioneering. From his early boyhood to the end of his days he was known for his gentle manner and kindly ways. He is said to have closely resembled his mother's side of the family yet his personality and characteristics were decidedly Hackett. He married Miss Kathrine Carpenter of Whitewater and they established their home there. John had learned the miller's trade and was connected with the local, "stone mill" where he served out his useful years. His wide acquaintance and friendly ways was recognized as a real asset to the institution. He was also active in all public undertakings in interest of the city's welfare.

Two children were born to this union, William and Nellie, the latter was born May, 1878. Other dates not supplied. The husband of Nellie died in Chicago in 1930, where they resided. Nellie remarried there later and still resides there. After the death of his wife and his retirement from the mill, John went to live with his daughter in Chicago and died Burial at Whitewater. He had been an occasional visitor to his cousins at North Freedom who held him in high esteem.

His son Will, married Lilla Johnson. They had two children, one son Wilbur and one daughter.

Will passed away when he was a young man.

WILLIAM HACKETT

William Hackett, familiarly known as "Bill", son of John and Eliza Hackett. He was born on the Hackett homestead near Whitewater, Jan. 4, 1850. There he grew to manhood doing his full part, along with his brothers and sisters in developing the farm and after his mother's death, continued to live at home with his father, his sister Julia being their housekeeper. Will was known for his even temperament, his quiet, industrious habits and his love for farming. Like his ancestors he was seized with the desire for "new worlds to conquer" and joined the army of homesteaders in South Dakota where he took up a claim. But he did not find the situation to his liking and soon returned to

Whitewater, content to spend the rest of his life there. In 1892 he married Miss Lucy McChesney and for several years they operated a farm not far from the original homestead. They had two children, Eva and Howard. Eva died when only a child. After Will's death Aug. 30, 1922 his wife and son moved to Whitewater where she has since run a lodging and boarding house. After finishing school at Whitewater, Howard went to work for Henry Scholl in his large grocery store. His integrity and business ability along with his ambition to succeed eventually led him into the grocery business where he has developed one of the largest and finest food and grocery retail stores in Whitewater. In Mar. 26, 1932 he married Miss Emma Goodhue, an amiable and ambitious helpmate. No children are reported. The Will Hacketts were always much interested in the Hackett Reunion and attended several at North Freedom and did much to promote the meetings held at Whitewater. Howard is an honor to the Hackett name and more will be heard of his successes as his history develops. Howard is a past Master of the Masonic Lodge here, also a past Worthy Patron of the Eastern Star.

ABRAHAM HACKETT JR.

Son of Abraham Sr. and Mary Randall Hackett, was born in Ontario, Canada, Dec. '1, 1837 and passed from this life Nov. 13, 1906 at Whitewater, where he had spent his life span. On Feb. 13, 1861 he was united in marriage with Mary Ridge who was born in England 1841. To this union nine children were born: Charles Alfred, b. Jan. 20, 1863; Arthur Eugene, b. Feb. 26, 1865; Ida Lavina, b. Oct. 6, 1866; Wm. Milford, b. Oct. 13, 1868; Alice Mary, b. July 27, 1870; Edgar Ridge, b. May 20, 1872; Harley Theodore, b. Aug. 14, 1874; Kathrine M., b. Sept. 29, 1876; Nellie Jane, b. Aug. 5, 1879; Sidney J., b. Mar. 10, 1894.

Abraham's wife, Mary, died in 1884 and in 1892 he married her sister Ella. Ridge and Sidney, last of children named above was born to this union. As a means of designation between him and his father for whom he was named, he was familiarly known as Abe. His vocation through life was that of farmer, a vocation he enjoyed immensely and in which he was successful. His splendid characteristics were demonstrated in his fine family, several of whom I knew personally, but not as intimately as I would have liked to. They were all an honor to the Hackett name and deserved more detail in this history than I have data on except as will be found in these pages. Many honorable mentions of this entire family have come to me. Of Abraham it is said that his was a quiet, friendly nature, a devoted husband, an indulgent parent and good neighbor. He was a devout Christian, a member of the Free Methodist church and a liberal contributor to every good cause, in other words: a true Hackett. The mother of his children, being English bred, accentuated the English character in this family. Only the highest commendation of Mary and Ella Ridge has come to me and to their sterling characteristics a due share of the virtues of the family should be attributed. I regret that I do not have more detail on this entire family.

ABRAHAM JR. AND MARY RIDGE HACKETT FAMILY TREE

- I. Abraham Hackett-born in Canada, Dec. 1, 1837 - died Nov. 13, 1906.
- II. Mary Ridge Hackett-born in England, Oct. 18, 1841 - died Jan. 25, 1884.
1. Charles Alfred-born in Whitewater Jan. 20, 1863-died June 15, 1831.
Wife-Minnie White -- a. Kessie Hackett Myers -- 1. Avis, 2. Marian
b. Lucile Hackett Granning -- 1. Jean Graning Peters
2. Arthur Eugene Hackett-born in Iowa Feb. 26, 1865-died April 22, '28.
Wife-Hattie Robinson -- 1. Harry Hackett - a. Arthur Hackett, b. Robert Hackett, c. Norman Hackett (deceased)
2. Inez Hackett Verhalen
3. Elton Hackett
3. Ida Lavina Hackett Dies Warner-born in Whitewater Oct. 6, 1866-died Jan. 10, 1931. -- 1. Flossie Dies (deceased)
4. William Milford Hackett-born in Whitewater Oct. 13, 1868-died April 28, 1945
Wife-Anna West -- 1. Ruth Hackett Bromley -- a. Elizabeth, b. Phyllis Dunham, c. Frederick, d. Shirley, e. Martha.
2. Raymond (deceased) -- a. Robert, b. Patsy, c. Ray (deceased)
5. Mary Alice Hackett Fonda-born in Whitewater July 27, 1870 - husband-Elmer Fonda.
1. Gladys Fonda Ferguson -- a. Neil, b. Joyce, c. Jeanette.

6. Edgar Ridge Hackett-born in Whitewater May 20, 1872-died Jan. 4, '37
Wife-Myra Dean
 1. Dean Hackett (deceased) -- a. Hubert, b. Gordon
 2. Kenneth Hackett -- a. Perry, b. Dean, c. Beverly
 3. Donald -- a. Barbara
 4. Clarence
7. Harley Theodore Hackett-born in Whitewater Aug. 14, 1874-died Oct. 26, 1945
Wife-Myrtle Rockwell -- 1. Ethel Hackett Warner -- a. Harley, b. Mary Louise, c. John.
 2. Evelyn Hackett Marek -- a. Robert.
 3. Carroll Hackett -- a. Wesley, b. Carroll.
 4. Marion Hackett --
 5. Irene Hackett Minett -- a. Wallace, b. Audrey.
 6. Hazel Hackett Collins -- a. Barbara, b. Carol Lynn.
 7. Glendon Hackett
 8. Allyn Hackett -- a. Richard,
8. Katie Melyvina Hackett Welbon Clark-born in Whitewater Sept. 29, '76.
 1. Verna Welbon Wood -- a. Homer Lee
 2. Leslie Welbon (deceased)
 3. Leona Welbon Conn -- a. Guy Conn
 4. Florice Welbon Spooner -- a. Wayne, b. Kenley
 5. John Welbon -- a. Patricia
 6. Edna Welbon Kuecker -- a. Thomas
9. Nellie Jane Hackett Gilbert-born in Whitewater Aug. 5, 1879
 1. Harold Gilbert -- a. Thomas, b. Barbara
 2. Ernest Gilbert -- a. Joan, b. Rita

III. Abraham Hackett married Marian Ellen Ridge on March 24, 1892.

1. Sidney J. Hackett-born in Whitewater March 10, 1894. Wife-Mary Belle Pollock
 1. Marilyn Jane
 2. Betty Ellen

(Fourth generation)

CHARLES ALFRED HACKETT

Charles Alfred Hackett, eldest son of Abraham and Mary Ridge Hackett, was born in Whitewater, Wisconsin January 20, 1863. He lived there for many years and it was there that he met and married Minnie Ann White who died in January 1912. In 1898 the family moved to Hebron, Illinois where they lived until 1900 when they went to Lake County, South Dakota, and located on a fine farm two miles northeast of Madison. In 1906 the family moved to Madison and he entered the clothing business, associated with E.J. Sutton under the firm name Hackett and Sutton. He continued in the store until 1919 when he retired and gave part of his time to insurance but much more of it to civic duties. He was president of the Lake Madison Chautauqua Association for many years. He was President of the Cemetery Association for five years. He served on the Board of Education for many years and was a faithful public servant in this capacity.

He was a member of all the Masonic Organizations in the city; Evergreen Lodge, A. F. and A. M. of which he had been an officer, the Eastern Star, the Chapter of Royal Arch Masons, the Commandry of Knights Templar and the Shrine.

He was a devoted member of the Presbyterian Church and zealous in his support of the church. He was always active in the Men's Club, a faithful attendant at the church services and an Elder of the Church.

In 1914 he married Cora Vail at Whitewater. He died very suddenly June 15, 1931.

Two daughters were born to Charles and Minnie Hackett: Kessie and Lucile. Kessie married George Myers and lives at Richmond, Illinois. She is the mother of two daughters: Avis and Marion. Lucile married Harold Graning and lives at Canton, South Dakota. She is the mother of one daughter, Jean.

ARTHUR EUGENE HACKETT

Arthur Eugene Hackett, the second son of Abraham and Mary Hackett, was born in Iowa February 26, 1865. With his parents and baby brother he came to Whitewater when about ten months old in a covered wagon. He attended school and grew to manhood in Whitewater and in 1888 he was married to Hattie Robinson. Unto this union five children

were born; two died in infancy. Harry, Inez and Elton lived to grow up in the city of Milwaukee.

Arthur spent most of his life working in machine shops, first in Whitewater, then in Lake Mills and for many years in Milwaukee where he acted as Superintendent of a factory.

He died April 22, 1928 in Milwaukee and was buried at Lake Mills.

The oldest son, Harry, was in service in the first World War. He had three sons.

ALICE MARY HACKETT FONDA, was born July 27, 1870. On Nov. 22, 1893 she married Elmer Fonda and have been life long residents of Whitewater. Five children were born to them, four of whom died in infancy, and Gladys who on Oct. 16, 1925 married Vern Ferguson. They too, have been boosters for the Hackett Reunion and have attended many times.

IDA LAVINA HACKETT, was born Oct. 6, 1866 and died Jan. 10, 1931. She married Arthur Dies. They had one daughter, Flossie who died at age of 19.

KATHRINE MELVINA HACKETT was born Sept. 29, 1876. She married Harry Welbon and resides at Hebron, Ill. She is the mother of six children: Verna, Leslie, Leona, Florice, Edna and John. Leslie passed away at age 16; Verna married Homer Woods, is resident of Hebron, Ill. Leona married Guy Conn of Harvard, Ill. Edna and John are unmarried.

NELLIE JANE HACKETT born Aug. 5, 1879 - Married Ervin Gilbert, Jan. 1, 1900. They reside at Elkhorn, Wis. They have two sons: Harold and Ernest.

WILLIAM MILFORD HACKETT, third son of Abram and Mary Ridge Hackett, born Oct. 13, 1868, Whitewater, Wis. Married Annie L. West, Oct. 11, 1893, daughter of Frank and Catherine Hodges West, born March 21, 1872, Kansas. Operated farms in LaGrange until 1930 when they started operating the telephone exchange at LaGrange and kept it till Mr. Hackett's death, April 28, 1945. Mrs. Hackett passed away Dec. 4, 1945. The children: Ruth Orette and Raymond West. Ruth Orette, born Sept. 13, 1894, married Dec. 5, 1916 to Frederick George Bromley, born Aug. 27, 1888. Farmers, owning the Bromley Farmstead which has been in the family since its purchase from the government in 1844. Their children (5): 1. Elizabeth Ruth, August 31, 1917. At present a home missionary and preparing for the foreign field. Graduated from Whitewater State Teachers College, 1940. 2. Phyllis Carol, December 25, 1918. Married Dec. 28, 1944 to Wallace J. Dunham, July 12, 1921, Tray Center, Wis. Farmer on Heart Prairie (son of Wallace and Mary Babcock Dunham) They have one son, James Wallace, born May 19, 1946. 3. Frederick William, April 20, 1920. Married Jan. 1, 1943 to Barbara Ruth Bray, Jan. 14, 1922, Elkhorn, Wis., (daughter of Walter and Esther Sheard Bray). They are in partnership on the Bromley Farmstead and have two children: Rebecca Ruth, July 27, 1944 and Thomas Brooke, July 13, 1945. 4. Shirley Ann, May 14, 1927. Attending Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio and 5. Martha Catherine, Feb. 25, 1940.

RAYMOND WEST HACKETT, Aug. 5, 1896. Married Sept. 1, 1922 in Whitewater to Myrtle Emma Kading, Sept. 28, 1898 (daughter of Chas. and Katy Kading). Veteran of World War I. Corp. R. W. Hackett served as dispatch rider in Headquarters Co., 107 Engineers of the Thirty Second Division. He received the Croix de Guerre for extraordinary perseverance and devotion to duty. Passed away April 24, 1934, a victim of pneumonia, leaving: Robert Alden, June 14, 1924. Veteran of World War II. Seriously wounded in both legs in North Africa. Lieut. at nineteen in U. S. Cavalry. Purple Heart. Patricia Ann, May 29, 1928. Graduate Whitewater High School 1946 as valedictorian. Preparing for kindergarten teacher.

HARLEY THEODORE HACKETT

Harley Theodore Hackett, son of Abraham and Mary Ridge Hackett was born Aug. 14, 1874 in Whitewater. He attended the public schools and churches in Whitewater.

On January 2, 1901 he married Myrtle I. Rockwell. They lived on a farm east of Whitewater until the spring of 1913. In November, 1912, while he was in the field getting a load of corn stalks, he was struck by lightning. His wife found him lying unconscious on the load; one of the horses was dead. For months Harley was in bed and was left with a permanent leg injury so that he was unable to continue farming. That spring the family moved to Whitewater.

After he was able to work he secured odd jobs and in 1919 was hired by the City of Whitewater to take care of the streets. He was known by all because of his faithfulness to his work. He took a great deal of pride in having the streets clean and often would come home and tell that tourists would stop and tell him that the streets in Whitewater were the cleanest of any they had traveled over during their trip. At the

time of his death a citizen remarked, "I have often called the attention of my boys to Harley Hackett in an effort to impress upon them that anybody who does his assigned work faithfully and well wins the respect of his fellowmen."

On October 26, 1945 he met his death by accidental drowning while dumping the refuse from his cart at the edge of a pond which he had done for years.

Harley loved his home and family and when his day's work was done preferred to sit home and read and listen to the radio rather than to go visiting. His special radio programs were baseball games. He was an ardent follower of the Cubs. Besides his widow he left behind him to treasure his memory eight children, namely: Ethel Warner, Evelyn Marek, Carroll Hackett, Marion Hackett, Irene Minett, Hazel Collins, Glendon Hackett and Allyn Hackett.

(Fifth and Sixth generations)
Descendants of Abraham Hackett Jr.

CHILDREN OF HARLEY AND MYRTLE HACKETT

Ethel Louise was born September 3, 1901. She graduated from the City High School and the State Normal and taught school for five years. On November 5, 1930 she married George H. Warner of Lake Mills. Three children were born to them: Harley George on January 29, 1932; Mary Louise on April 14, 1933; John Allen on October 23, 1934.

On December 25, 1935 George passed away. Ethel and her children moved back to Whitewater. In 1938 was elected City Treasurer which job she still holds. (1946)

Evelyn May was born February 22, 1903. She attended the Whitewater schools and in 1923 married Emil Marek of Jefferson, an employee of the Northwestern Railway. One son, Robert E. Marek was born on Oct. 21, 1923. The family are residents of Madison where Robert entered military service Feb. 9, 1943. Robert served in an anti-tank unit of the 79th Infantry Division in the European Theater. He was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, American Theater ribbon, Good Conduct medal, Victory Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation badge, Bronze Star medal and four battle stars for taking part in Normandy, Northern France, Rhineland and Germany. He was a sergeant when he received his honorable discharge December 16, 1945.

Carroll Ellsworth was born May 19, 1904. He graduated from the City High School and attended the State Normal. While enrolled here he wrote a civil service examination and received a civil service appointment in Chicago. He is located in the New Post Office building there in the Civil Service Department. In 1929 he married Wilda Croft and two children were born to them: Wesley Ellsworth on March 13, 1935 and Carroll Fredrick on March 22, 1938.

Marion Rosetta was born December 1, 1905. After graduating from the City High School she entered the Madison General Hospital for training. She graduated in 1927 and began nursing as a trained nurse in the city of Madison and is continuing in that profession. She has had several interesting trips with her patients; she went with one on a Mediterranean Cruise and spent a winter in Florida with another.

Irene Myrtle was born January 13, 1908. She graduated from the City High School and was married to Wilmer D. Minett, August 28, 1929. He worked as an electrician for several years in Elkhorn and in Whitewater. In the winter of 1945 they moved back to Whitewater and are farming. They have two children: Wallace Harland, born August 5, 1930 and Audrey Irene, born August 19, 1932. Both children were born in Elkhorn.

Hazel Belle was born August 15, 1909. She graduated from the City High School and the State Normal and taught school for two years. She married Howard Wright Collins, April 24, 1935 and they have two daughters: Barbara Jean, born July 28, 1936 and Carol Lynn, born June 10, 1939. Wright is a city mail carrier in Whitewater.

Glendon Howard was born December 26, 1911. He is a graduate of the City High School and now is an interior decorator. He lives at home with his mother.

Allyn Rockwell was born May 13, 1914 and married Irene Marshall. They have one son, Richard Allyn who was born September 4, 1937. Allyn works as a clerk in the Post Office in Whitewater.

(Fourth generation)

EDGAR RIDGE HACKETT

Sketch by Mrs. Mrya Hackett, his wife

EDGAR RIDGE HACKETT, son of Abraham and Mary Ridge Hackett was born in the town of Whitewater May 20, 1872 and spent his boyhood and young manhood there. He attended

the schools and churches there and united with the Baptist Church in 1894. On Feb. 20, 1895 he was united in marriage to Myra L. Dean of Whitewater, formerly of Troy, Walworth County. They lived on a farm near Whitewater until Nov. 1899, when they moved to a farm of 260 acres at Troy Center, Walworth County owned by an aunt of Mrs. Hackett.

Five years later they purchased this farm. It was land bought from the government by Mrs. Hackett's grandfather Dean about 1840. The farm was quite level and in the early days had been covered with large oak trees - some of which are standing today. The Hackett's had four boys: Hubert Dean, born March 14, 1898; Kenneth Montague, born March 16, 1900; Donald Edgar, born Jan. 14, 1904; Clarence Gordon, born Feb. 8, 1913.

Several years after we purchased the farm, the help question was quite a problem. Our own boys were too young and it was hard to find two men who were satisfied to work together. We finally divided the farm making two 130 acre farms.

At that time we built one of the largest dairy barns in Walworth County, housing a herd of forty or fifty Holstein cattle, calves etc., also the horses. The upper floor took care of the hay, grain etc., and the milk house and silos in connection. Ed was very proud of his herds of hogs, Chester White, (especially after a rain, if they could find a puddle to wallow in).

We remodeled the house and added as many conveniences as were available at that time. So we had a very pleasant nine room home. On the other 130 acres was the barn we'd bought with the farm. That was remodeled into another modern dairy barn, which housed another large herd of Holsteins, as well as horses, etc. Another house was modernized and another pleasant home made. Perhaps I might say that the young man who took his bride into that home in March 1914 was one of Ed Hackett's "hired men". He is still there - perhaps satisfied as he was in 1914.

Ed was very active in all things for good in our little town of Troy Center, which was at the edge of our farm. At the time a railroad was convenient to us, which made shipping easy. There was a little country Methodist Church and a very good State Graded school- besides stores, blacksmith shop, creamery, etc.

Our home was always open to the children and young people, as well as the older ones. Ed always had a place for the boys to play ball, etc. and mothers used to say, "We're so glad our boys have a place to play- away from the men who used to loaf about the town."

Ed was Treasurer of our large creamery for years, and altho there was a great deal of farm work, he always seemed to find time to help out in all worthwhile things.

In 1919, our oldest boy Dean was married and the next year, we left the farm and moved to Whitewater, leaving Dean in charge. Ed's health was not the best at that time, altho he was active for many years- When people would ask how he was- his answer was always "fine and dandy," but he was far from that. He spent many weeks in hospitals trying for help, but on Jan. 4, 1937 about fifteen minutes after he'd entered the hospital at Madison for a treatment and in the company of a nurse and doctor he passed away.

(Fifth generation)

CHILDREN OF EDGAR R. AND MYRA L. HACKETT

DEAN - eldest son of Ed. and Myra Hackett, was an ambitious boy and an enterprising young man with intense interest in farming. He was a hard worker, cooperating with his father who had to leave the farm in 1920 in charge of Dean, on account of ill health, caused by a severe attack of pneumonia a few years before Dean had to leave the farm in 1921. In October of that year he passed away very suddenly, at the home of his parents in Whitewater, leaving his young wife and two little sons, one less than three months old. Hubert the older one made his home with his grandparents, and is now, -1945- a pilot in the Air Transport Command in India- flying the "Hump" to China. He is married and his wife Carmen and baby son Hugh are in Whitewater. The latter a great grandson of Ed and Myra Hackett. Gordon - the younger son has been on a Destroyer in the Atlantic for several years, has recently received his honorable discharge and is now living in Milwaukee with his wife Eleanor. Dean would have been proud of his two boys could he have lived to see them now.

KENNETH - Married Gail I. Atkinson of Troy Center. They have three children: Perry, Dean and Beverly. Perry has been a Bombardier Navigator thru the war in Europe and was twice shot down and once a German prisoner but escaped both times unhurt. He was married in 1944 to Bessie Dixon- at this time he was stationed at Midland, Texas, his wife with him. Dean is at the Wisconsin University taking a pre-Medic course. Could not pass the physical examination for service. Beverly, at home, will be a senior

in High School next year.

DONALD - Third son of Ed and Myra, is married to Marguerite Veerland, of Illinois and is serving "Uncle Sam" as money order clerk in the Whitewater Post Office. Their daughter Barbara Ann, is now a seventh grader.

CLARENCE - The youngest son of Ed and Myra is teaching in the Navy School at Perdue University and also doing work toward a Doctor of Philosophy Degree. He received his Masters Degree of Arts at the Iowa University. He has done some very fine art work.

(Note---A fine family with records of loyalty, service, accomplishment, for country, family and community.
--G.W.H. Historian

(Fourth generation)

SIDNEY J. HACKETT

Sidney J. Hackett, son of Abraham and Ellen Hackett, was born March 10, 1894 at Whitewater, Wisconsin.

After graduating from High School, he worked for nearly four years in the Scholl Grocery Store. For the next eleven years he worked as cashier for the St. Paul Railroad.

On September 2, 1922, he was married to Mary Belle Pollock at Whitewater, Wisconsin. To this union two daughters were born: Marilyn Jane and Betty Ellen.

In March 1928, he and his family moved to a farm he purchased south of Whitewater where he continued to live at the present time.

In addition to operating his dairy farm he has been a A.A.A. committeeman for many years and also served as a Board Member and Secretary-Treasurer of the local Badgerland Co-Op. He has served as Treasurer of the school district in which he lives and was Town Treasurer for several years and at the present time is clerk of the Town of Whitewater.

(Third generation)

LYDIA HACKETT CHESBRO

Was born at Whitewater, Dec. 17, 1848, the only child born to Jacob and his first wife, Marion Vanalstein. Her mother died in 1850. However, she was beloved and treated with maternal devotion by her step-mother just as tho she had been born to her. She was still a child when the family moved to Cold Springs where she grew to womanhood and married Albert Chesbro, of a highly respected, pioneer family of that place, which is not far distant from Whitewater, and thru frequent visits back and forth, was intimately associated with the Whitewater Hacketts. My acquaintance with her was casual as I remember her only from her annual visits, she and her husband, to her father, Jacob and family, but I was impressed by their appearance and friendly gestures. Belle Scholl says of them: "Lydia was a lovely girl, reserved but friendly, and always so neat and trim in her appearance. Her husband was very devoted to her and they lived many very happy years together. They had no children but were much interested in children in general and did much for the communities in which they lived. They lived at Ft. Atkinson until his death. Lydia has made her home with a niece near Milton for several years. She is now past 96, but able and hearty.

GEORGE ELLIOTT HACKETT

George E. Hackett, son of Jacob and Jerusha Hackett was born at Whitewater, Wisconsin, 1858 and died at North Freedom, 1925. In he married Lydia Hackett, his second cousin, daughter of Joel Hackett. For a few years after their marriage he was engaged in farming, with his brother Herman on what was part of the original Samuel Hackett homestead, near the village of North Freedom. During these years he was also part owner and operator of a threshing outfit, with Joel and Herman as his partners. He was of a quiet nature but industrious and very reliable. Like most of the Hacketts he was a lover of good horses and an excellent horseman. In the early 1880's, when the rush for settlement of South Dakota was at its height he took a carload of horses to Watertown, South Dakota to sell and while there became interested in what seemed glowing prospects for the city of Watertown and decided to locate there. He and Lydia moved there in 1885 and George took up draying. He was doing well at it when I visited them in the fall of 1887, but misfortune soon after, overtook them. A child was born to them, but lived only a few days and Lydia was critically ill for many months, resulting in their returning to North Freedom. During her long illness George was unreservedly devoted to her but she never recovered.

George was a staunch supporter of the Hackett Reunion and attended regularly. He died at North Freedom in 1925, a highly respected citizen.

HERMAN BENNETT HACKETT

Son of Jacob and Jerusha Doolittle Kidd Hackett, was born at Cold Spring, Wis. Sept. 25, 1858. On June 6, 1880 he married Frances Georgia Tinker, at North Freedom. She was born Jan. 19, 1862 and died at Park Rapids, Minn. Aug. 4, 1926. To this union were born: Pearl Iva, Mar. 15, 1881; Glen Herman and Gladys Frances (Twins), Nov. 21, 1886; Allen Charles and Alice Frances, (Twins) July 16, 1891; -X Voncile, Feb. 1, 1895; LaMae Frances, June 27, 1898. All were born at North Freedom on the original Samuel Hackett homestead. Herman had come to North Freedom with his parents in or about six and with them also came David Kidd and family, Herm's half brother who was partner with his father in a threshing machine outfit, the operation of which soon gave them a wide acquaintance throughout the community. The excellence of their horses and their efficiency and pride in handling them was a readily recognized characteristic and this being in the days when horses furnished the motive power for operating the thresher, offered opportunity for demonstration of the art.-- It was soon after the death of Herm's mother that he was married and his very efficient and charming wife took over the duties of housekeeper in the home bereft of wife and mother. Before this occurred, Jacob and his two sons Herman and George, had bought 80 acres, or half of the Samuel Hackett homestead and the men were busily engaged getting out and preparing the material for building a house for each of the brothers, and for other buildings needed. This strenuous task proved both the ambition and metal of these young men, and I as a much younger boy remember well my visits to where they were working as it was but a short walk from our home. It was in the years following that I was often called on to help in light jobs of planting or hoeing and from these contacts I recall the pleasant chats I had with "Frankie" and came to know the children. It was also during this period and later that "Uncle Jake" used to tell me about their home in Canada and experience there.

Before the turn of the century things had changed materially in this setup. George had sold out his interest to Herman and had been induced to go to Watertown, South Dakota where previously, both he and Herm had taken car loads of horses to sell to homesteaders who were fast settling those wide prairie lands; their father passed to his reward in 1898 and in 1901 Herman sold his farm and followed his half brother, David Kidd to Park Rapids, Minn. there again to join the pioneers in settling up and improving a new country. He bought a partially improved farm and proceeded to develop it. He had only gotten a good start when fire destroyed the home and most of their personal possessions, but undaunted, he rebuilt and continued on the farm until 1911 when he sold it, moved into Park Rapids, then a small village; took on a stage route from Park Rapids to Itasca State Park. Later he became Street Commissioner of the fast-growing town and also, town Marshall. He served in these capacities for several years and retired at the age of It was my good fortune to again visit in their home in 1925 and to hear the story of experiences they related in the active part they had taken in helping to develop Park Rapids from a small hamlet to a small city so favorably located right in the heart of Minnesota's ten thousand lakes. The limited information the writer has concerning the children who grew to maturity in these pleasant surroundings follows with the listing of their families. Herman died in 1948 at Park Rapids, Minnesota.

(Fourth generation)

CHILDREN OF HERMAN B. HACKETT

PEARL IVA HACKETT was born at North Freedom, Mar. 15, 1881, child of Herman and Frances Hackett. On Mar. 6, 1906 she was united in marriage to Herbert E. Day. She died June 15, 1927. To this union six children were born, (see 5th Gen.) As a young girl and youth at North Freedom, Pearl showed rare qualities, studious in school, quiet and reserved yet very friendly and highly esteemed by all. She had finished school and qualified as a teacher when in 1901 her parents moved to Park Rapids, Minn. and there she taught until she was married in 1906. The Days acquired a farm near Park Rapids where their children were born and reared. With her keen interest in education and all matters of public welfare, Pearl was a valued asset to the community where she was highly esteemed. Her untimely demise in 1927 was a great shock to her family and host of devoted friends.

GLENN HERMAN HACKETT, was born at North Freedom, Nov. 21, 1886, was fifteen years old when he went to Park Rapids, Minn. with his parents. There he grew to manhood and on Dec. 7, 1906, married Miss Hazel L. Downs. Six children were born to them: Royal R.; Dale B.; Duane, Gloria and Garth. (Further record, 5th Gen.) Glenn was a twin to this sister Gladys, (Wheaton) the family has continued to reside in the vicinity of Park Rapids but further data is lacking.

GLADYS FRANCES HACKETT WHEATON, was born at North Freedom, Nov. 21, 1886. She grew to womanhood in the family home at Park Rapids. On Aug. 5, 1908 she married Fred E. Wheaton and have continued to reside there. Gladys, a twin to Glenn is a lady

of fine personality and is an accomplished home-maker. They have lived on their own farm most of the time during their married years. They have no children.

ALLEN CHARLES HACKETT, born at North Freedom July 16, 1891, one of the second pair of twins born to Herman and Frances Hackett. On April 17, 1925 he married Louise. Allen grew to manhood at Park Rapids and served in the navy during World War I. For many years he has resided in Texas and other southern states in oil interests. They now live in Kansas City, Kansas. No other data.

ALICE OLIVE HACKETT, twin to Allen, born at North Freedom, July 16, 1891. At ten years of age moved to Park Rapids, Minn. with her parents and there grew to maturity. For many years she served as telephone operator there and became chief operator of that station. She later went to Montana where she married John R. Simpson, and lives on a large ranch there. No further data.

X VONCILE HACKETT, born at North Freedom, Feb. 1, 1895. She grew to womanhood at Park Rapids and became a teacher. Went to Montana where on July 16, 1925 she married Hans W. Anderson, a rancher, near Culbertson, Montana where they still reside.

LA MAE FRANCES HACKETT, youngest of the Herman Hackett children was born at North Freedom, June 27, 1898. She was but three years of age when the family moved to Minnesota. She became a teacher with special training and has been a successful teacher in the city schools at St. Paul, Minnesota for many years. She is unmarried.

(Fifth generation) of the H. B. Hackett Family

CHILDREN OF PEARL HACKETT DAY

Ruby Lucile, born Dec. 27, 1906; Mildred B., born Dec. 30, 1907 m. Albert Becker, Children, Robert, Charles; Vera Pearl, born Mar. 2, 1909, m. Harley Stephens, children, Joy, Gloria; Lyle Herbert, m. Annabell Langguth, one child. Lyle took training and graduated from the Minnesota Normal at St. Cloud and became an instructor in that college but left the position to enlist in the navy for service in World War II. He is now back at teaching at Fergus Falls, Minnesota; Marion Day, born Apr. 21, 1921, m. Harry Sommers. They reside at Park Rapids, Minnesota; Ruth Voncile Day, born Apr. 21, 1926 at Park Rapids.

CHILDREN OF GLENN HACKETT

Royal R. born Dec. 17, 1907; Dale B. is a Doctor at Mt. Iron, Minnesota; Duane; Virgil Hackett, served in U. S. Army in World War II; Gloria; Garth Hackett, served in U. S. Army; World War II.

J. B. ("Uncle Jay") Loomis, was born in Sauk County, Wisconsin, Nov. 12, 1856 is now past his 92nd milestone. He grew to manhood in the vicinity of North Freedom and has really belonged to the Hackett family since boyhood. He is the only man living today, (1949) who knew my grandfather, Samuel Hackett well, as he worked for him a good deal when a young lad. He was past 16 when Samuel died and he remembers him well. Brother to my mother, - "Aunt Ann", - as she was known to all the Hacketts, Jay's association with the Hacketts was close and intimate thruout his life. While his children cannot claim any Hackett blood in their veins, there are more than a half hundred of his nephews and nieces of two generations who are of direct Hackett breeding. Furthermore, Jay's interest in and attendance at our annual Hackett Reunions for the past ten or more years, and that of his daughters, Grace Fredericks and Velma Yelton as well, gives this uncle and family justified recognition for a place in this history. Jay was married to Miss Flora Whittaker, at North Freedom. Eight children, five sons and three daughters were born to this union. These children grew up in northern Wisconsin whither the family had moved at an early day, settling on a homestead in Oneida county. But J. B. having had some earlier experience in railroading, became employed by the Milwaukee road, then penetrating that new section. For some time he was section foreman in his immediate vicinity, but was later promoted to be foreman over the work train on this Wisconsin Valley line of the road. His eldest son Samuel, has been a conductor on this branch of the road for many years. Now living a retired life in a home of his own, at Minocqua, Wisconsin situated near the two daughters above named he is enjoying life and still active with his garden and home; has wide acquaintance and is most highly respected in a wide circle of friends who have known him well thru all these years. He is "Uncle Jay" to all who attend the Hackett Reunion and all are glad for his presence and also that of his family.

A. TREK TO THE WEST

"Westward the Course of Empire" has been on its way since time immemorial. It has always meant adventure and hope for opportunity. These are the things which, doubtless,

prompted our forefathers, who first crossed the seas to a new world. It was the same urge which prompted the movements of our later ancestors to move from North Freedom to Canada and then on west to the newer sections of Illinois, Wisconsin and Minnesota, and later, on further west to the Pacific coast and even on to the Orient. Several of these treks have been briefly described in these pages, but the sojourn which to me seems most significant has been only too briefly mentioned. I refer to the sojourn made in 1862-4 by Samuel and Dency Hackett, from their home in Wisconsin to Utah and return, but what prompted them to make that long and hazardous journey was neither "adventure or opportunity", but rather a search for health and to visit relatives they had not seen for many years. Having first hand information on this trek, as will later be seen, I feel our readers will be interested in the story. In this case there was more than one reason which would justify this venture. With their son William, then approaching manhood and afflicted with what was then called "consumption," and with a change to climate of higher elevation, the only then known relief. Then, too, Samuel was sorely afflicted with rheumatic trouble and it was thought a change of climate might restore his health. Another impelling reason was the fact that Dency had not seen her own people for many years and she felt she must see her parents again before they should be called home.--- Besides William, Parshall, then 18, was the only one of their children at home; George lived in Minnesota, John and Joel were in Colorado and Frank was in military service for his country, as the Civil War was then in full progress. The Terrys, Dency's parents, brothers and sisters, had previously taken the historical trek to Utah, with the Mormons, with whom they became affiliated in New York where the Terrys had previously lived and where the original Latter-Day Saint church was formed. Dency was a member of this church but not of the branch which believed in ploygamy and had followed Brigham Young to Utah. Altho she could not agree with their doctrines, they were still her own people and their family ties had been strong. It was Parshall who was their mainstay and support on this journey and I will let him tell the story, which is copied from his own contribution as found in the Old Settler's Souvenir History of Sauk County.

The only means of transportation, in those days was the ox team and covered wagon. Altho the Mormon trek had begun much earlier, Mormon "trains" were still forming and making the trip, and their trails and the crude accommodations they had provided, offered the only available guidance across the wild country and also protection from the Indians, who were hostile. Summer was the only safe time to make this trip, when their cattle could crop the grass along the way, and when streams could be forded, as there were not bridges. Following is Parshall's story:-

"In 1862 I accompanied my parents and brother William to Great Salt Lake City, they having determined to make the trip, to visit mother's parents and brothers and sisters. Fitted out with covered wagon, one yoke of oxen and two yoke of cows, tent, father's rheumatism, feather beds and a tin stove, we proceeded to Council Bluffs, Iowa. The Missouri river being very high, we had to ford for a mile on low land before reaching the steamboat which was to take us across the river to Omaha. In getting to the boat I had to wade beside the cattle. The water was so high it ran into the wagon box. When one of the oxen stepped into a hole, mother let out a screech, such as is common to women, that I shall never forget, but we made it without accident. When safely on the other side of the river, we waited for the formation of a "church train," going to Great Salt Lake City, a distance of 1040 miles. Forty wagons, containing families, made up the train and moved westward. A more happy and jolly set of people than these were, it has never been my lot to meet. Having my violin with me, many a night we tripped the "light fantastic" on the green, where we camped. However, it was a tedious trip and after four long months of tiresome travel, with many hazards and hardships, we reached the city of our destination. A more beautiful city and valley I have never seen. It was while I was in Utah I attended my last term of school, and also while here, brother William died, to our great sorrow.

"In the spring of 1863 we left Utah for Denver, Colorado with the same outfit we had come west with, consisting of one yoke of oxen and two yoke of cows, the latter to supply milk and butter as well as to help draw the wagon. Indians were so troublesome, through the Rocky Mountains, on our way back, we had to take a new road which took us 150 miles further south. After visiting my sister Hannah, (Mrs. Gile) for a short time, we exchanged our cattle for horses and started back across the plains for home. Father's rheumatism was worse rather than better and we had lost in our effort to secure health for brother Wm. but the visit and our stay in Utah was very pleasant."

How supremely urgent were the impelling forces which prompted this hazardous sojourn and what courage and fortitude it must have required! Traits of real character, and of family devotion, with which the Hacketts have always been richly endowed. Under our modern conditions of roads and travel methods, and surrounded with present day luxuries, such a trek, under such conditions would not seem possible, yet I believe, if put to the test, our younger people of today would, courageously accept such a challenge. It is "in the blood."

IN RETROSPECT

By

Mary Hackett Prentice
Richville, Minn.

I am the eldest daughter of Frank and Ann Hackett, and like all my brothers and sisters, was born in the log house which was our home at North Freedom, in beautiful Baraboo Valley, where I was reared to maturity. I do not recall that the valley or surroundings appeared especially lovely to me and I do not remember of anyone suggesting that we lived in a "valley." This may be due to the busy, practical life we lived, and it is probable that our pioneer families regarded the happy and promising situation likewise from the practical viewpoint of its material value for creating new homes, rather than from its picturesque beauty. However, I have always cherished fond memories of my happy childhood there, where a large family of us lived, worked and played together so happily, under semi-pioneer conditions, each taking his or her part in helpful service as soon as old enough to assume responsibility. This is a common necessity in large families, but one never grows too old or too far removed from their childhood home and memories but that the desire is ever present to sometime go back for review and retrospect.

My mother was living with me in 1937 and had expressed a desire that we accept brother Sam's invitation to come to North Freedom to spend the winter with him, thus giving us both a chance to renew old acquaintances and live again, for a time, amid the surroundings and memories of the past. Mother had been in the west most of the time since father's death in 1916 and I had been away from there for nearly forty years, except on short visits, the longest being during father's last illness. During the intervening years many changes had taken place in my life. I, too, had pioneered in a new section of Minnesota, my family of seven children were mature and scattered, and my husband had passed away. There was nothing to prevent us from spending the winter back at the old home. We were most cordially received by both relatives and friends, but familiar faces were comparatively few. The town, too, had changed considerably yet the streets and old landmarks were very familiar and it was grand to be back.

It was on one of those rare autumn mornings when "Indian Summer" still lingered I went to a vantage point near brother Jake's home, on what was part of our home place, from where I could view most of the village and the definite outlines of the valley. It was then I caught the most startling vision,- the beauty of the Baraboo Valley. The hills to the south, the west and the highest one right north of the town, close-up, stood as guarding sentinels,- giving benediction morning, noon and night. When they were covered with winter's snow they gave added charm, while the dimness of leafless forests gave added strength and dignity to the scene, and the distant roads, winding around them or over their crests; first blazed by the pioneer and later improved for modern traffic, bespoke of the progress made thru the years. Skirting the hills to the south I could locate the old mill pond on Seeley Creek; the Iron Mines and the quarries, and the many prosperous farm homes within the valley and on the hills all seemed to give evidence of contentment and plenty. To complete the picture the Baraboo River winds its way with many a crook and turn, unmindful of its importance as it divides farms; causing bridges to be built at many points, supplying power for many mills and often flooding lowlands, yet withall a great asset to the valley. Aunt Dency Gray must have caught a glimpse of its majesty when she conceived that poem we all love so well: "On The Banks of the Baraboo." Returning from my observations I said to mother: "Has this beauty always been here and I, for one, never knew it before?"- I longed to go to the hills for closer communion. It seemed like I could say, with the Psalmist: "I look to the Hills from whence cometh my strength." The sun and the moon alike gave the valley a generous beauty. Where we lived is but a small portion of it, but to all posterity of Samuel and Dency Hackett, it will always be "the dearest spot on earth."

The high bluff, which forms such an attractive background for the village, should have a name. Perhaps some day some will venture to give it one. It should be "Hackett." It was formerly part of the Samuel Hackett holdings. It will always be a "Picture on Memories Wall" to many Hacketts. Its western slope forms a protective background for the place where so many of our loved ones are sleeping. As children we used to climb its steep sides to pick berries or to eat our picnic lunches from the peak;- in winter we coasted down its steep incline. All these happy memories persist and now each time I go back this place of beauty grows more dear to me. It is truly a "shrine" and may our children and their children thru many generations, maintain the spirit of family loyalty and devotion,- a heritage to be kept secure that they be ever mindful of this favored spot.- The Baraboo Valley,- where our Grandparents, Samuel and Dency Hackett established their pioneer Wisconsin home a century ago.

A N A L O G Y

Writing, editing and compiling the historical data contained in these pages has been a "labor of love" that has paid dividends in the pleasure and satisfaction I have from having been able to complete the work insofar as data has been made available. I greatly appreciate the help I have had from all who have responded to my requests. I would be remiss in my duty if I did not here acknowledge, with sincere appreciation, the great amount of help given me by "Cousin Belle" (Mrs. Belle Pollard Scholl) in securing data on the Whitewater families with whom I have never had close contact. The spirit in which this service was rendered demonstrates true kinship and family fellowship, for which the Hacketts are noted. Others at Whitewater who rendered valuable service in less amount are: Mrs. Edgar Hackett, Mrs. Harley Hackett and Mrs. Ethel Warner. Further valued help came from my sister Mrs. Mary Prentice, whose interest has been unstinted.

It has been my deep regret that I could not have written of all branches of the family with the same definite knowledge. In order to portray, correctly, the more worthy family attributes and characteristics, which I believe to be common in each individual, it has been necessary to write intimately, and at length, of those I have known best. I have endeavored to be wholly impartial and unprejudiced.

If in the perusal of this Historical Story of the Hacketts, the reader is brought as closely in family fellowship to the family in general, I shall feel that my efforts have been well repaid and that the future of the Hacketts is secure.

Family Historian

